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THE TIMES

How fashion looks from London and Paris, page 9

Prague pledge to defend socialism in Poland

The Eastern block will not remain impassive if any threat develops to Poland's socialist system, Dr Gustav Husak, the Czechoslovak leader, said at the Prague party congress yesterday. He forcibly restated the "Brezhnev doctrine", used to justify the 1968 invasion of Czechoslavakia, that protection of socialism concerned all socialist states.

Dr Husak reaffirms Brezhnev doctrine

Prague, April 6.—Dr Gustav Husak, leader of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, opened the party congress today with a warning that the Soviet block would not remain impassive while the communist system in neighbouring Poland was threatened.

With the presence of President Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union adding weight to his words, Dr Husak restated the Brezhnev doctrine of limited sovereignty which was used to justify the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 which ended the short-lived liberalization of the "Prague spring".

President Brezhnev, who arrived unexpectedly yesterday at the head of the Soviet delegation, was met with prolonged applause as he entered the congress hall.

Acknowledging that Czechoslovaks were following events across the border with disquiet, Dr Husak said: "The fact that the political crisis in Poland is still continuing and intensifying fills us all the more with apprehension."

He said a recent Polish Central Committee meeting had emphasized that anti-socialist and counter-revolutionary forces (the phrase used to condemn the Prague spring) were causing anarchy and threatening the foundations of socialism.

Dr Husak said that communist states would defend their community if anyone tried to use events in Poland to stir up trouble.

He echoed the "Brezhnev doctrine" by saying: "All who are attempting to misuse the events in Poland for instigating anti-socialist campaigns must be reminded of our clear standpoint that the protection of the socialist system is not only the concern of each socialist state, but also the joint concern of the states of the socialist community, which are determined to defend their interests and the socialist achievements of their people."

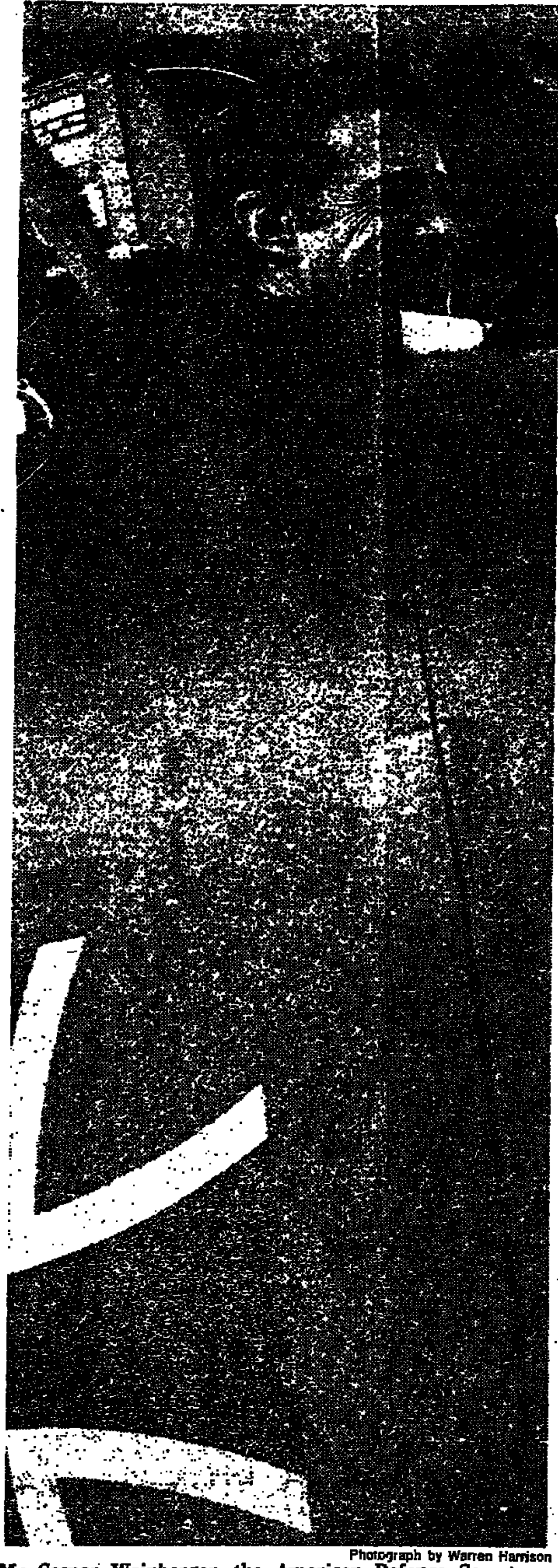
In a long passage on trade unions, important in view of developments in Poland, Dr Husak said their work needed a sensitive and differentiated approach to people.—Reuter.

Dutch protest: The small Dutch Communist Party has recalled its delegate to the Prague congress in protest at Dr Husak's remarks about Poland (Reuter reports from Amsterdam). A spokesman said the Dutch party "and other Communist parties abroad" resented comparisons between the situation in Poland and those in Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Hungary in 1956.

Confidence lost: Since the plenary session of the Polish Central Committee, Moscow and its East European allies seem to have lost confidence in the Polish leadership's handling of the situation (Dessa Trevisan writes from Belgrade).

Even Romania is showing no understanding for the Polish case, though it still professes to be opposed to intervention. But now it expects the Polish authorities to use their own repressive measures, for if Poland was successful in carrying democratization farther afield it would set an attractive example throughout the communist world.

Hungary, of all the Warsaw Pact countries, has shown some restraint and until recently it took a sympathetic attitude. Lately, however, there have been critical undertones concerning the way the Polish leadership is making concessions.



Photograph by Warren Harrison

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, in the cockpit of a Tornado at RAF Cottesmore yesterday.
Report, page 6

Budget tax rise lifts wholesale prices

By David Blake
Economics Editor

Budget tax increases helped to push up factory gate prices by 1¼ per cent in March. Coupled with a sharp increase in the price which manufacturers had to pay for their raw materials and fuel—the result of a drop in the value of the pound—the figures produced an upturn in the rate of wholesale price inflation over the past six months.

But officials at the Department of Industry hope that the setback is temporary.

The Department of Trade has issued figures which suggest that hire purchase and other credit business rose slightly in February from its low January level. The figures confirm that retail sales in February fell back slightly from the January level but were higher than in any month of 1980.

Roughly three-quarters of the increase in output prices charged by manufacturers in March was accounted for by higher duties on tobacco and drink. These Excise duties are included in wholesale prices and the March figures reflect only part of the full impact of Sir Geoffrey Howe's, actions, since the higher duties did not take effect until after his Budget on March 10.

The increase in value-added tax will be directly reflected in retail price figures but will not show up in wholesale prices.

The underlying rate of increase in output prices over the past six months went up to an annual rate of 10.5 per cent. This is the first time that the underlying rate of wholesale inflation has been in double figures since September last year. The underlying rate bottomed out at 5.9 per cent last December.

Because the underlying rate moves more slowly in response to swings in any month, the annual rate in March fell again to 10½ per cent.

The underlying rate of increase of input prices, which measure what industry has to pay for the goods it uses, rose for the fifth successive month in March to reach an annual rate of 15.3 per cent.

S Africa in 'gems deal' with Russia

By Michael Prest

De Beers, the South African diamond producer, and the Soviet Union had a top secret contract under which De Beers sold most of Russia's diamond output, it was alleged last night. This agreement had broken down and a new one was said to have been under discussion.

The allegation, made in *Panorama*, the BBC television programme, was part of an investigation into what were claimed to be close commercial links on gold, platinum and diamonds between South Africa and the Soviet Union.

A senior De Beers spokesman, however, has denied the existence of any such agreement. He said in London last night: "If there is an agreement I would certainly know about it."

The BBC programme claimed that meetings had taken place between top Soviet foreign trade officials and senior executives of De Beers and Anglo American, one of the world's biggest gold and platinum producers, including Mr Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of the two companies. The sighting in Moscow last year of Mr Gordon Waddell, an executive director of Anglo American, was also stressed.

Mr Vladimir Bykov, the Deputy Soviet Ambassador in London, denied there were any links between his country and South Africa.

Race plea helped stop Bristol riot retrial

The Director of Public Prosecutions said that an important factor in his decision not to pursue charges against the remaining four defendants in the Bristol riot trial was advice he had received from the Chief Constable of Somerset and Avon concerning the promotion of racial harmony in Bristol. Mr Brian Weigh, the Chief Constable, said that "the need is to look forward with confidence, and not to dwell on the past". At the recent trial eight people were acquitted of riotous assembly and the jury failed to reach agreement on four defendants. Page 4

Conflict at disco inferno inquiry

The judicial inquiry into the Stardust discotheque blaze in Dublin, which killed 48 young people, heard of conflicting evidence over whether the club's emergency exit doors were locked. Counsel for the four-man tribunal said the fire on St Valentine's night this year, in which 160 people were injured, was an inferno. Furniture materials may have contributed to the deaths Page 4

Rivals challenge Trident TV

A rival group is challenging Trident Television's attempt to change the ownership of Yorkshire Television, its present subsidiary, to meet the demands of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which meets on Thursday. The IBA will discuss two possible structures for the new group, one formulated by Trident and the other by the rivals, whose identity remains secret Page 3

Israeli warning over Lebanon

As fighting between the Arab peace-keeping forces and right wing militias in Beirut and the Christian town of Zahle entered its sixth day, the chances of foreign intervention in Lebanon increased. Israeli aircraft flew over Beirut apparently as a warning of possible intervention if fighting continues Page 7

Census collection nearly over

The vast operation of collecting completed census forms from Britain's 20 million households is nearly over, and the complex work of translating the replies into statistical information will soon begin Page 2

Drive to oust left on Labour NEC

Right-wing union leaders are planning to overturn the left majority on the Labour Party's National Executive Committee by mobilizing the moderate vote at the party conference in October. The union leaders are to meet in secret before Easter Page 2

Navy badly hit by strike, unions say

Civil Service union leaders claim industrial action is causing major disruption to intelligence gathering and to the operations of the Navy. Unions have called out 500 staff in key computer and supply areas, which they say restrict the Navy servicing warships and submarines Page 2

Drawing in sale suspected fake

A drawing to be offered for sale today by Christie's and catalogued as a work of the Florentine Renaissance, with an estimated value of £10,000 to £15,000, is suspected of being a fake by leading dealers and some experts Page 3

Playwright Pope goes into the film business

From Peter Nichols
Rome, April 6

The Pope is to go into films, or at least a film is to be made of one of his plays, it has been announced here. The play is entitled *The Jeweller's Shop* and is a study of marriage.

It was written by the Pope 21 years ago, when he was auxiliary Bishop in Krakow. He published it under the pseudonym of Andrezej Jawien and the production company, Interlinea Cinematografica, insisted today that they chose to film it because of its "great artistict and human value".

No doubt it helped that the play's author is the best-known Pope in modern times.

The play was received respectfully here when it was broadcast on Rome's Third Programme and the notices for a BBC version were not at all bad.

A dramatic reading of the script was recently given in Italian in the presence of the august author himself and he was seen to applaud warmly; not the play, it was pointed out at the time, but the efforts of the actors.

The Pope was a respected actor before he decided to give his life to the priesthood.

Students of his technique can study it at leisure with the now numerous gramophone records issued of him singing or celebrating Mass. One tape and disc is simply entitled "Pope Live At Pompeii!"

And a film is also being made of his life. One begins to sympathize with the actor who complains in press interviews what a problem it is to impersonate the Pope.

From actor to subject of film biography, the Pope now enters the field of writers whose work has been adapted for the cinema.

The play is a study of three marriages. One is a successful marriage, another is foundering and the third is difficult but not without hope.

No less a man of the theatre than Jean Louis Barrault in his preface to the French edition of the play said that it "emanates a profound poetry". The film version will be made both for the cinema and television.

The Pope, has, of course, also published volumes of verse which are fundamentally an expression of his philosophical views on human dignity.

Today the Pope did what might be called a certain toughing up behind the scenes by receiving the 23 delegates of the staff association at Vatican City which represents 1,500 lay employees of the Pope's personal realm.

They have for some months been calling for better pay and conditions. Some of them had been disappointed with the Pope's apparent unconcern about their difficulties.

Apart from acting and writing, this unusually experienced Pope has also been a worker, after all.

New Premier

Brussels, April 6. — King Baudouin today appointed Mr Mark Eyskens, the Finance Minister, as Belgium's Prime Minister. Mr Eyskens seems increasingly likely to be able to reform a Christian Democrat and Socialist coalition Government.

US is 'seriously concerned' by Soviet threat

From David Cross
Washington, April 6

The United States was seriously concerned about the threatening military propaganda posture" adopted by the Soviet Union towards Poland, a State Department spokesman said today.

But Washington did not believe Soviet intervention was likely "in the immediate future". Asked what he meant by "immediate", the spokesman responded: "Look down the road for a few days."

The spokesman also disclosed that the Administration was now assessing whether intensified military exercises by the Warsaw Pact nations in and around Poland involved more than 25,000 men. If they did, the Soviet Union would be in breach of the terms of the Helsinki agreement on East-West relations, which require prior notification of large-scale military manoeuvers.

Notwithstanding the legal requirements of the Helsinki treaty, the spokesman said: "it certainly would have helped to reduce tensions" if the Soviet Union had provided notification of the manoeuvres to Washington.

"Most important", he added, "the Soviets are acting contrary to the final Act principles which prohibit the threat or use of force and intervention in the internal affairs of other countries."

In a further indication of Washington's deep concern, President Reagan has sent a toughly-phrased letter to President Brezhnev, the Russian leader.

The letter, which was sent on Friday night after a week of intensified military activities by Warsaw Pact forces in and around Poland, was said to have warned Moscow that any Soviet intervention would disrupt all future arms negotiations talks "totally".

However, according to well-informed officials here, the letter did not spell out exactly how the United States and its allies intended to retaliate in the event of a Russian invasion.

British action: Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in a letter sent to President Brezhnev before he left for Prague, was said yesterday to have reemphasized the European Community's concern that the Polish people be left to decide their own affairs (Our Political Editor writes).

Downing Street declined to publish the text of the letter, but informed accounts suggested that it had been more of a restatement of Britain's position regarding Mr Brezhnev's proposals on East-West relations rather than a new warning to the Soviet Union to keep its hands off Poland.

It appeared that the British Government had been taken by surprise by the Warsaw Pact talks. Mrs Thatcher's remarks about Poland were confined to a brief passage at the end of the letter, although it was said that Poland was in the forefront of her concern.

Sterling falls: Mounting fears about the Polish situation sent sterling crashing on the foreign exchange markets, falling 3½ cents to close at $2.169, its lowest level for almost a year. (The pound plunges, page 17.)

Hardliners' only hope, page 6
President's health, page 6

The Russians will tolerate anything except a democratic republic..

Calman

Partners killed in shotgun attack

A man walked into a factory in Castle Donington, near Derby, yesterday afternoon and fired a shotgun about six times, killing two men.

The dead men were named as partners in A and R. Furnishings: Mr Colin Aylesbrook, aged 40, of Melbourne, Derbyshire and Mr Mario Nobbili, aged 32, of Chellaston, Derby. A man has been arrested.

Whitehall housekeeping attacked by audit chief

Peter Hennessy

Citing criticism of Whitehall's failure to maintain an adequate standard of good housekeeping in its activities or acceptable stewardship of the £60,000m of public money it disperses annually, was made in a memorandum published yesterday by Sir Douglas Henley, Comptroller and Auditor General, Parliament's watchdog on spending and efficiency.

In his report to the Commons Select Committee of Public Accounts on Internal Audit in Central Government, Sir Douglas said that its overall standard was substantially lower than it should be, with an almost universal absence of adequate capability to audit computer-based systems".

Senior civil servants were criticized for failing to appreciate the potential benefits of an efficient audit system. Sir Douglas directed his remarks at a majority of departments but declined to name the guilty or innocent.

The Government has begun to take remedial action in response to Sir Douglas's memorandum. A thoroughgoing review of internal audit procedure is under way, supervised by Sir Ian Bancroft, Head of the Home Civil Service, and Sir Douglas Wass, Permanent Secretary to the Treasury.

Sir Anthony Rawlinson, Second Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, and Sir John Herbecq, Second Permanent Secretary to the Civil Service Department, accepted the main thrust of Sir Douglas's criticisms in their appearance yesterday before the public accounts committee.

Sir Anthony would not agree, however, that top civil servants in all departments had neglected internal audit and cited the Ministry of Defence as an example.

Sir Douglas found a "general lack of professionalism" among civil servants working on internal audit. Sir John told the committee that 47 qualified accountants worked on the subject in 11 departments; 20 more departments had no accountants engaged on internal audit.

Sir Douglas said that most main accounting systems in government were now computer-based and a capability for undertaking computer audit was essential. Sir John said the Civil Service possessed six officials qualified in both accountancy and computing.

The Treasury and Civil Service Department witnesses told the committee they welcomed the report.

Sir Douglas proposed a number of remedies for the deficiencies he had uncovered. The most important was a "general recognition of the potential role of internal audit and new staffing arrangements" for the unit. Progress on those would clear the way for general improvements.

£200m scheme saves BR's 'iron cathedral'

By David Hewson

British Rail will announce today that it intends to proceed with the £200m redevelopment of Liverpool Street and Broad Street stations in one of the largest property schemes in London in recent years.

The plan provides for the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street's western train shed and the adjoining southern nave and transept to be preserved.

When BR announced its plans, including demolition of the hotel in 1975, they produced a spirited correspondence in *The Times* in which Sir John Betjeman and others, opposed the redevelopment. In a letter the opponents described Liverpool Street's trainsheds as "a cast-iron cathedral of the railway age", and praised Broad Street's "French Renaissance twin mansard pavilions, spacious booking hall, and elegant Florentine stairway".

Passengers using Liverpool Street, which serves East Anglia, Essex and suburban areas east of London, have been less impressed than the Poet Laureate.

Last year the Transport Users' Consultative Committee for London was full of praise for the station's Europa Bistro but described the terminus itself as "somewhat decrepit".

BR's property board appears to have solved tax problems which has threatened to sink the development for the past two years.

The scheme, which will take eight to 10 years to complete, involves the construction of a new station, 1.2 million sq ft of offices, 30,000 sq ft of shops, and track improvements as far as Bethnal Green.

The property board still has to return to the City of London Corporation and Hackney Borough Council for detailed planning consent for the scheme, but this is not expected to create any difficulties.

Outline planning permission was only granted after a lengthy public inquiry and considerable modification of BR's initial plans.

BR first formulated its plans for redeveloping Liverpool Street in the early 1970s and received outline planning permission for the scheme two years ago. But it came close to cancelling the project when it was learnt that development land tax could change the scheme from a highly profitable one for BR into a loss.

Initially it was thought that the tax would apply only to the commercial office and shops part of the development. Station and track improvement costs, which account for about half the £200m, would not have been offset against the tax.

However, recent discussions with the Treasury and Inland Revenue have led BR to believe that the commercial and railway sides of the development will be treated as an integral scheme.

It is understood that BR approached the Treasury and asked for some form of exemption from development land tax to enable the scheme to go ahead profitably. The Treasury pointed out a clause in last years Finance Act which allowed BR to apply to the Inland Revenue for an advance assessment of how much tax it would be liable to pay on the whole development.

This means that the profit liable for tax will be greatly reduced by the inclusion of the railway operation costs. BR had said earlier that the inclusion of the railway works in the final equation could make the difference between 40 per cent of the final value being liable for tax and 90 per cent.



Photograph by Malcolm Clarke

Liverpool Street's 'cast-iron cathedral of the railway age'.

Unions aim to loosen grip of Labour left

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Right-wing union leaders aiming to block Mr Wedgwood Benn's attempt to gain the deputy leadership of the Labour Party have widened their political campaign to encompass the party's national executive committee.

The "new right" caucus in the labour movement is planning to overturn the left majority on the NEC by mobilizing the moderate vote in an unprecedented manner at the October party conference.

Union leaders who attended the Charing Cross hotel talks that established the anti-militant coalition after the Wembley special conference are to meet again before Easter for fresh strategy talks.

The agenda has been extended to take in an all-out effort to dislodge left-wingers from their 17 to 12 majority on the national executive. "That is what it is all about", one of the moderate union leaders said last night.

After the publicity surrounding the founding meeting of the caucus, some general secretaries came in for strong criticism in their unions, so the date and place of the next round of talks is being kept secret. But it is reliably said to be within the next 10 days.

Chief targets of the proposed putsch are Miss Joan Maynard, MP, Mrs Renée Short, Mr Douglas Hoyle, of the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs, and Mr Bernard Dix, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees.

All are regarded as left-wingers whose removal through union influence would shift the balance of power in favour of the moderates.

The 650,000-strong block vote of the third largest affiliate to the party, the General and Municipal Workers Union, is presumed to be critical to the outcome of the intense manoeuvring going on within the Labour movement, and pressure has been put on Mr David Basnett, the union's general secretary, to "deliver" for the right-wing list of NEC candidates.

Top-level talks have taken place with Mr Basnett, and he has agreed to maintain personal contacts with Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, on the general development of trade union attitudes within the party. But he has refused to ally his union with the "new right".

Mr Basnett said yesterday: "We will vote for the people (on the NEC) we have always voted for. I have never taken an outside list and I will not." He rejected the notion that his political creation, the Trade Unions for Labour Victory organization, would be crippled by resignations if he did not toe the line.

That was, however, the allegation being made yesterday, that if the GMWU leader "did not come across, his baby, the the TULV, will be sunk without trace".

Mr Basnett added: "I am not a member of this right-wing group. I have refused to join it. It would be quite improper for me to join it or to start taking political attitudes."

The verbal conflict within the moderates' camp highlights the tension felt since Mr Benn declared his candidature. Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen and a leading figure in the right-wing movement, said yesterday: "Nothing sustains this Prime Minister's arrogance more than to see that thee Labour movement does not speak with a united voice."

Strike disrupts the Navy, unions say

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Civil Service union leaders claimed last night that their industrial action was causing serious disruption of intelligence gathering and to the operations of the Navy.

The unions have called out on strike 500 staff in key computer and supply areas, which they say is restricting the Navy's ability to service and refit warships and submarines.

Three stations operated by the Composite Signals Organization, which monitors Soviet satellites and other radio signals, have so far been disrupted. Civil servants are planning to walk out at a fourth station at 10 pm tomorrow.

The unions claim that their action at the General Communications Headquarters centres at Bude, Cornwall, Cheadle, Staffordshire and over last weekend at Culm Head, Somerset, has caused "serious embarrassment" to the Government, and has led to protests from the United States which shares information gathered by these stations.

The Council of Civil Service Unions, which is the umbrella body for the nine unions representing 540,000 white collar staff, said that "tens of thousands" or workers in the departments of Employment and Health and Social Security, walked out yesterday afternoon in protest at the threatened suspension of 47 staff at the employment department's computer centre at Runcorn, Cheshire.

A council spokesman said last night that the staff, who have now been called out on strike, had been working only two days a week to process payment to people on Job Release Schemes.

Mrs Margaret Platt, assistant general secretary of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, said the unions' action at the Ministry of Defence meant that the £90m refit of the Polaris submarine Revenge, was being delayed.

There had also been delays in the supply of missiles to Polaris submarines and the exchange of missiles on one of the submarines had been postponed. A ship bringing Polaris components from the United States had been turned away from dockyards in Scotland and had returned to America, Mrs Platt said.

Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State at the Treasury, said in a written Commons answer last night that because of the selective strike action, it was not possible to continue the normal 10,000 repayments a day of value added tax to traders.

Holiday disruption: Air traffic controllers will not take industrial action over Easter as part of the dispute (the Press Association reports).

However, holiday were threatened last night when more than fifty staff went on "indefinite" strike at the Liverpool passport office.

Census day is over; now the counting begins

The forms are complete, but doubts remain

Stoicism in the best British tradition emerged triumphant yesterday as more than 100,000 enumerators began the task of collecting completed census forms from 20 million households.

With few exceptions the enumerators, though sworn to secrecy by their official masters, reported a spirit of politeness and cooperation from respondents, coupled with a phlegmatic refusal to be ruffled, even where the point of some of the questions was entirely lost on them.

In south London, for instance, Mr Donald Rushworth, a retired nursing officer from Croydon, took time off from calling on houses in the Elephant and Castle area to say that it was all going "very well indeed".

By Ronald Faux, David Nicholson-Lord, Arthur Osman and John Witherowe

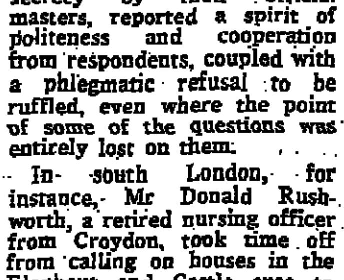
Mr Rushworth, aged 67, said that his job as an enumerator would be completed by last night, by which time he would have collected 160 forms. "I have had no abuse at all", he said. "People are being very cooperative and friendly. They are very nice round here."

The chief difficulty had been that of elderly people, many of whom had found the forms confusing. Some had asked why they had had to write down where they had worked before retirement.

"I don't see the point of it", Mr Rushworth said, "but I tell them that it is to keep the Department of Health informed as to the flow of jobs from London to the country and back again".

He knocked at a door in Hayles Street, where Mrs Alice Shelley, a former Fleet Street cleaner, said she had not worked for 10 years, and asked why the census people wanted to know anyway?

"Just to help the Government make an assessment of the district and the movement of business", Mr Rushworth replied vaguely. Mrs Shelley appeared satisfied and retired to her decorating.



Photograph by John Manning

Mr Alexander Bianchi, aged 34, of the Elim Estate, in Bermondsey, London, after handing over his completed census form yesterday.

Next door Mrs Violet Bailey had the completed form ready on the hallstand. "This is extremely good," Mr Rushworth said approvingly. "You have answered it very well indeed." He declined Mrs Bailey's offer of further information.

A trainee social worker aged 23 mentioned that on his round in Dulwich he had been chased down the street by an outraged householder to whom he had delivered a form.

"What we are supposed to do officially in reply to that sort of behaviour is to explain the background to the census and the purposes of it, but the best thing to do was run." he said. He was unhappy at the prospect of returning to collect the form.

In the inner areas of Birmingham census supervisors said they had not had any reports from enumerators of people belonging to ethnic minorities refusing or failing to fill in the forms.

Interpreters with expertize in a total of 10languages were available to help, and many of the enumerators covering areas with large communities of coloured people were West Indian or Asian.

North of the border a retired engineer from Fife was doubtful of the value of the census.

"If they actually spent £44m on providing lavatories they already know people do not have, there would be more wisdom in it", he said.

An aircraft engineer near by had written across that part of the questionnaire asking about qualifications: "I have many professional qualifications but consider them to be my own private business".

His objection was to being asked questions at all; his near neighbour's objection was that the questions missed the point. "What they want an answer to, the sort of question that Enoch Powell raises, is actfully ignored", he said, "and the part where unemployed people fill in the form according to their last employer rather fudges a useful area."

Those who doubted the value of some of the questions appeared at first sight to have a point.

Several of the questions are often asked by government bodies and the answers are stored in computers where they can be used at the leisure of the Civil Service.

Why then ask the same questions again? The reply from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys is that "some of the information is available for some of the people, but not for everyone".

Many people may well have filled in forms in the past giving much of the information required in the census, but there are others who have not answered such questions and who do not, for instance, own cars or pay taxes or rents.

In its blanket coverage the census will certainly duplicate much information that is already available from other sources, but it will also gather details about members of households that have not previously been accessible.

The office has to steer a course between the wish not to pry too closely into people's private affairs and the pressure of local authorities and demographers, who say they need more information if they are to make accurate predictions.

Despite their attempt to please everyone, the census authorities have certainly succeeded in irritating Mrs Bernice Smith, of Weymouth, Dorset. She has sent a bill for £5 to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, for the one hour, 10 minutes that it took her to fill in her form.

Leading article, page 13

Moonies ruling will be studied

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

The Charity Commiss[...] decision not to remove [...] Unification Church [...] Moonies) from the cha[...] register would receive a [...] deal of attention both i[...] and outside Parliament, [...] lawyers and other bodies, [...] Francis Pym, Leader of [...] House, and Chancellor of [...] Duchy of Lancaster, ass[...] MPs yesterday.

What had been revealed [...] said, was causing a great [...] of anxiety. He was respon[...] at the end of a debate, on [...] Easter adjournment, to wo[...] members on both sides, [...] were urging the commissio[...] to change their minds.

Mr David Mellor, Cons[...]tive MP for Wandsw[...] Putney, who first raised [...] issue in the House, said [...] commission was wrong in [...]ing it did not have the p[...] to investigate or remove [...] "Moonies' church" from [...] list of charities.

Mr Mellor said he was [...] to see that the Departme[...] Health and Social Security [...] looking into the brain-wa[...] aspect of the matter.

Charities should be an i[...]tant part of the nation's life [...] should not be abused, degr[...] and brought into disreput[...] the activities of bodies suc[...] the Unification Church.

The commission's state[...] was "particularly fatuous" [...] it had acted with unse[...] haste after the verdict of [...] jury in the recent Daily [...] libel case. Mr Mellor, who [...] that he was meeting Mr [...]ence Fitzgerald, the Chief [...]missioner, today, added that [...] relevant section of the Ac[...] no way modified the basic p[...] of the commission to re[...] any institution which no lo[...] appeared to be a charity.

Having seen the verdic[...] the jury, Mr Mellor said, [...] commission should have [...] moved both organizations, [...] Unification Church and the [...] Myung Moon Foundation, f[...] the register. They should [...] been told that if they disse[...] they could go to court

Democrats run close second to Labour in London opinion poll

By Ian Bradley

The Labour Party will win Paddington in next month's Greater London Council (GLC) election with the Social Democrats coming a close second, according to an opinion poll of voters in the borough.

The poll, conducted by Research Projects Ltd, for the Radical Centre for Democratic Studies in Industry and Society, involved 786 voters spread evenly across the constituency.

It found that if only Labour, Social Democrat, and Conservative candidates were standing, they would poll respectively 33.6 per cent, 30.4 per cent and 20.8 per cent of the electorate.

If only Labour, Conservative and Liberal candidates stood, they would poll 46.7 per cent, 28.4 per cent, and 15 per cent, respectively.

If candidates from all four parties stood, Labour would poll 33.8 per cent, Social Democrats 25.7 per cent, Conservatives 20.9 per cent, and Liberals 7.4 per cent.

The findings of the poll, which was carried out in the week before the launching of the SDP, represent the first full analysis of the opinions of the London electorate.

They show, for example, that unemployment is rated the single most important issue in the forthcoming GLC election, followed by rates, inflation, education and rents.

In answer to a more general question on wider issues, those interviewed rated the right of parents to choose schools as the most important, followed by encouragement to industry to help reverse unemployment, greater police powers to prevent mugging and street crime, outlawing the National Front, and enforcing laws against litter and dog fouling.

Mr James Spillius, the director of Research Projects Ltd, was yesterday named as Social Democrat candidate for Paddington in the GLC election. He replaces Mr James Daly, who stood down last week.

Although Mr Spillius' organization carried out the poll, he stresses that it was an impartial and independent survey. Interviewers were deliberately chosen evenly from all four political parties.

No Thatcher comment on 1968 'plot'

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Beyond drawing attention to the fact that the head of MI5 is responsible directly to the Home Secretary, with right of access to the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher shied away yesterday from discussion about the purported plot against Sir Harold Wilson in 1968.

The Prime Minister managed even to decline an opportunity to say that she was satisfied with the way the system operated.

It was left to the usual Whitehall sources to assert that the implication was that she must be content, otherwise she would change the system.

The Prime Minister gave a written parliamentary answer to a question from Mr Edward Leadbitter, Labour MP for Hartlepool, who asked whether she was "satisfied with the arrangements for detecting any plans to subvert the elected government".

Instead of answering "Yes", Mrs Thatcher drew attention to a 1952 directive to the Director General of the Security Service (MI5).

That is the so-called Maxwell Fyfe directive (named after the Home Secretary of the time), and Mrs Thatcher noted that it was reproduced in the 1963 Vassall inquiry report by Lord Denning, to whose observations on the functions of MI5 she also drew attention.

The nub is that the head of MI5, in his task of helping to defend the realm against, among other things, "internal organizations subversive of the state", reports to the Home Secretary. In matters of "supreme importance and delicacy" he may approach the Prime Minister directly. But the Prime Minister has no responsibility for day-to-day running of MI5.

Parliamentary report, page 8

Oil rigs to be strengthene[d]

By John Huxley

Three North Sea oil rigs similar in design to the Alexander L. Kielland, which capsized with the loss of 123 lives, are to undergo modification this summer.

They are the Pentagone 84, operated by Total Oil Marine, Dixylyn 97, operated by Union Oil, and Dixylyn 96, operated by Amoco. The Pentagone 84 is already being towed from a location east of Shetland, where it has been drilling, to the Norwegian port of Haugesund.

The other rigs, also east of Shetland in the Heather and Hutton North-west oil fields, are still operating. Although their owners and operators are satisfied that they are safe, the rigs will be taken inshore for "minor modifications".

The nature and timing of the modifications are still being discussed with representatives from Lloyd's Register of Shipping, but, it is understood that the required changes are to strengthen the bracing of the five legs on each rig.

Yesterday the operators were confident that, barring unforeseen difficulties, the three rigs would return to service after the work, which will be carried out at the same time as the regular inspection.

Mr Robert Huskisson, the chairman of Lloyd's register, said yesterday that there was a "remedial programme" for Pentagone-type rigs such as the Kielland, which capsized in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea in March last year. A report officially published yesterday criticized design and construction, as well as safety procedures on the rig.

Mr Huskisson said that earlier inspections had disclosed minor defects among the eight Pentagone rigs classified by Lloyd's. These were being corrected by techniques which would improve the fatigue life of welds.

The Kielland report traced the origins of the accident to metal fatigue emanating from a hope drilled into a leg brace to fix a hydrophone, an electronic positioning device. That eventually caused the member to fracture and one of the rig's legs to buckle in a heavy storm.

Mr Huskisson said that new, stricter rules on the inspection of rigs were to be introduced.

The technical committee is expected to endorse rec[om]mendations later this [...] will require all offshore [...] classifed by Lloyd's registe[r] be subjected to a detailed [...] vey every 12 months inst[...] of the present two years.

Owners have been alerted [...] the change

All three Pentagone rigs [...] operating in the North Sea h[...] undergone careful inspecti[...] The Dixylyn 97 was inspec[...] and later brought into Pe[...]head, in Scotland, where it [...] given a clean bill of health. [...] minor modifications now pl[an]ned were described as [...] urgent.

Pentagone 84 also underw[...] a dry dock inspection on [...] Cromarty Firth after the K[ie]land disaster. In addition [...] routine maintenance, horizon[...] bracing on the rig will now [...] made watertight.

The Department of Energy [...] expected to make a statem[...] after it has studied the repo[...] But officials emphasized t[...] improvements to offsho[...] safety were being made co[n]stantly, and that departme[...] experts had provided much [...] formation for the Kielland [...]port.

Mr Foot backs import curb to help car firms

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Drastic action was needed to protect the British car industry, Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, told a Labour Party rally in Birmingham last night.

The Government was rejecting advice from all quarters, and the director of the West Midlands Confederation of British Industry had given warning that 350,000 more jobs were in danger in the area unless there was a substantial improvement in the economy by the autumn.

"The Labour Party has been talking about selective import controls, which are used in almost every other industrialized country, for a very long time. If the Government had accepted our advice and that of the TUC a year ago, the motor industry would not be in the position it is today.

"They ask for efficiency and high productivity but they insist that industry competes at home and in world markets with one hand tied behind its back."

Spurning all the advice, the Government had proceeded with a deflationary Budget. "The consequence is that Britain, the only industrialized country with its own oil supplies, has a faster growing rate of unemployment, has less growth, more bankruptcies than almost any other industrialized country in the world."

Why did the Government not use the North Sea oil money to invest in the public sector instead of dissipating it on the unemployed? If Britain was to benefit when the recession ended, we had to invest now in housing, transport, energy and civil engineering to modernize the economy.

"We must get away from the present deflationary policies, which are the most direct and deadly cause of the present state of the economy."

£1.14 a week for our policy, party claims

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Labour Party's policies for London would cost on average an extra £1.14 a week for each household, Mr Andrew McIntosh, leader of the Labour Greater London Council group, said yesterday when nominations closed for the local elections on May 7.

Improvements to London Transport, including a 25 per cent reduction in fares, more buses, cleaner Underground trains and free offpeak train travel for pensioners are costed at 47p a week per household at 1981 prices.

Aid to new and existing companies, aimed at creating up to 10,000 jobs a year, will cost an estimated 30p a week. A further 27p a week will go on improvements in housing and the environment.

"This is the minimum programme we could put forward to square our consciences, but it will only bring services up to the level of 1977. We could not put forward anything less to the electorate and hold our heads up", Mr McIntosh said.

Barring withdrawals there will be 489 candidates for the GLC elections, 16 more than the record four years ago. The Conservatives and Labour are putting up candidates for each of the 92 seats, the Liberals 89, "official" National Front 41, Ecology Party 38, and Communist Party 16. There will also be seven Social Democratic Alliance candidates, a Social Democrat for Paddington candidate, and a candidate in Kensington and Chelsea describing himself as "Council for Social Democracy".

Labour's press conference yesterday was attended by Mr Gerald Kaufman, shadow environment minister, who declared that the Government had decided that the ratepayers would have to carry the burden of the failure of the Government's economic polities.

Mr Kaufman said that Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, had set himself up as the commissar of local government, and had ordered local authorities to carry out certain tasks and make reductions in spending that were impossible. If they could not do it, he would penalize them.

The GLC, under the "parsimony" of the Conservative Administration, was 13 per cent above its expenditure target, and Mr Kaufman challenged the Tories, if they retained control on May 7, to give a guarantee that they would not ask for an additional rate, or increase fares or rents in order to pay for the penalties that the Government would impose.

Mr McIntosh said Labour was fighting the election on the basis that London needed more money put into it and that the ratepayers must pay.

SDP backing: Liberals in Merseyside last night claimed the support of the first Social Democrat MP to come out for their candidates in next month's county council elections (our Political Editor writes).

Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for Liverpool, Edge Hill, said that Mr Richard Crawshaw, MP for Liverpool, Toxteth, "has endorsed all the Liberal county council candidates, and he has also predicted that he will see David Steel as Prime Minister and would be pleased to serve under him".

Mr Alton said that since it was the Liberals who were "carrying the banner", it was they who provided the real alternative.

Delay for Benn proposals on honours system

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

A decision on a six-point plan by Mr Wedgwood Benn for a radical change in the honours system was delayed by the Labour Party's home policy committee last night.

After a long debate on his proposals, which include a recommendation that no further nominations be made for any peerages, baronetcies or knighthoods, it was decided not to take any decisions until there had been further talks.

Many committee members were concerned that the proposals could cut across the plans of Mr Michael Foot, the party leader, to have more Labour peers to help the Opposition in the Lords.

The new list of peers, which will also include Conservatives and Liberals, is expected to be announced by the Prime Minister before she leaves for her tour of India and the Middle East next week.

Mr Benn, who is chairman of the committee, also proposed that all awards for gallantry should be retained but in future should be open equally to all ranks, and that a single civil award for merit should be instituted to replace all civil honours.

The Crown should continue to make personal awards of any kind, but the recipients should be limited to the Royal Family.

It was apparent after the meeting that the party's internal argument over the honours system was still in the melting pot. The general view was that there had to be a closer examination of the difficulties that would flow from the party's commitment to abolish the House of Lords.

Support for the Government 'pouring away'

By Our Labour Staff

A strong attack on the Prime Minister and her "demoralized" Government was launched by Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, in Birmingham last night.

Mr Murray said that not only the TUC and the Opposition were telling Mrs Margaret Thatcher that "she had got it all wrong". The Confederation of British Industry was also voicing industrialists discontent.

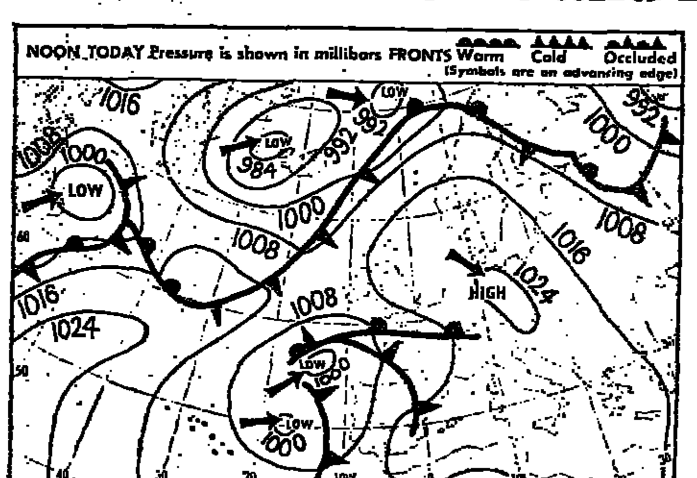
Mr Murray told a rally: "The unkindest quotes of all come from people who in public lay claim to being her friends".

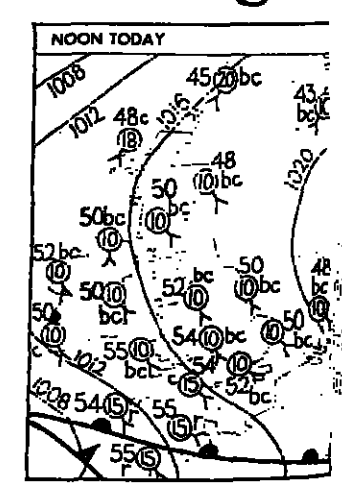
The "whisperers of Westminster", members of her own Cabinet, furtively leaked reports of division within the Government,

The real difficulty for the Government lay "in adding up the number of people who still believe in pristine monetarism.

"Support for government policy is no longer ebbing. It is pouring away as if a sluice gate had been opened in a dam."

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 6.23 am Sun sets: 7.44 pm
Moon rises: 8.13 am Moon sets: 11.21 pm
First Quarter: April 11.

Lighting up: 8.14 pm to 5.51 am. High water: London Bridge, 4.17 am, 7.7m; 4.46 pm, 7.6m. Avonmouth, 10.5 am, 14.3m; 10.19 pm, 13.8m. Dover, 1.15 am, 7.0m; 1.39 pm, 6.8m. Hull, 8.52 am, 7.9m; 9.06 pm, 8.2m. Liverpool, 1.39 am, 9.8m; 1.58 pm, 10.0m. 1ft=0.3048m. 1m=3.2808ft.

A ridge of high pressure over the British Isles will slowly decline.

Forecasts from 6 am to midnight:

London, East Anglia, E Midlands, E England: Sunny periods after a dull start; wind SE, light; max temp 11°C (52°F).

SE, central S, SW England: Bright periods, isolated light showers; wind SE, light or moderate; max temp 11°C (52°F).

Channel Islands: Mostly cloudy, scattered light showers, perhaps more general rain later; wind light and variable; max temp 10°C (50°F).

W Midlands, S Wales, central N England: Sunny periods after a dull start; wind light and variable; max temp 13°C (55°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Mainly dry, sunny intervals after a misty start; wind mainly SE, becoming mainly SW, light or moderate; max temp 10°C (50°F), cooler on coasts.

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Sunny intervals, scattered light showers; wind mainly S, light; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind S, becoming SW, light or moderate; max temp 9°C

NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, scattered showers; wind mainly SW, light, increasing to fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Mostly dry with sunny periods, but scattered showers in Scotland and perhaps some rain in S counties.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind E, moderate or fresh; sea slight to moderate.

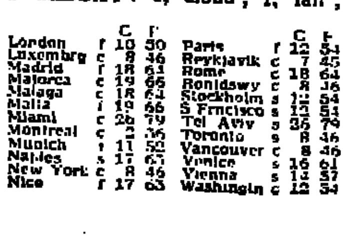
English Channel (E): Wind E, fresh, increasing to strong; sea moderate, becoming rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind E, moderate, becoming fresh; sea slight to moderate.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 7 am to 7 pm 12°C (54°F); min, 7 pm to 7 am, 5°C (41°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 67 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, trace. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 3.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,019.2 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; s, sun.



		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	17	63	Cologne	c	10	50	London	f	10	50	Paris	f	12	54
Algiers	f	23	73	Copenhgn	s	11	52	Luxembrg	c	8	46	Reykjavik	c	7	45
Amsterdm	f	10	50	Edinburgh	c	10	50	Madrid	f	18	61	Rome	c	18	64
Athens	s	17	63	Florence	c	18	64	Majorca	c	19	66	Ronldswy	c	8	46
Barbados	c	27	81	Funchal	f	18	64	Malaga	c	18	64	Stockholm	s	12	54
Barcelona	s	17	63	Geneva	f	12	54	Malta	f	19	66	S Frncisco	s	12	54
Beirut	s	17	63	Guernsey	c	7	45	Miami	c	26	79	Tel Aviv	s	26	79
Bermuda	c	20	68	Innsbruck	c	14	57	Montreal	c	2	36	Toronto	s	8	46
Biarritz	s	19	66	Istanbul	s	14	57	Munich	f	11	52	Vancouver	c	8	46
Birmnghm	c	8	46	Jersey	c	8	46	Naples	s	17	63	Venice	s	16	61
Bristol	c	8	46	L Palmas	f	20	68	New York	c	8	46	Vienna	s	14	57
Budapest	s	17	63	Lisbon	f	16	61	Nice	f	17	63	Washingtn	c	12	54
Chicago	s	10	50	Locarno	f	16	61								

Overseas selling prices
[illegible] Bahrain BD 0.650; [illegible] Canaries Pes [illegible]; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr [illegible]; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk [illegible]; France Frs [illegible]; Germany Dm [illegible]; Greece Dr [illegible]; Holland Gl [illegible]; Iran [illegible]; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic [illegible]; Italy L [illegible]; Jordan [illegible]; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon L [illegible]; Luxembourg Lf [illegible]; Madeira [illegible]; Malta [illegible]; Morocco Dir [illegible]; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rs [illegible]; Portugal Esc [illegible]; Qatar [illegible]; Saudi Arabia SR [illegible]; Singapore $[illegible]; Spain Pes [illegible]; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S [illegible]; Syria [illegible]; Tunisia Din [illegible]; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslav Din 60.

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هكذا من الأصل

Renaissance drawing may be a fake

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A drawing to be offered for sale by Christie's today is suspected by leading dealers and some museum experts to belong to a famous group of fakes. It is catalogued as a work of the Florentine Renaissance by a "follower of Andrea del Verrocchio" and depicts the "Head of a Youth with flowing hair"; Christie's published estimate of its value is £10,000 to £15,000.

"Our first instinct is to withdraw it from sale", Christie's director, Mr Francis Russell, said yesterday. "But we have to contact the vendor and discuss it with him." He added that, whether the suggestion was true or not, once such gossip was travelling around the art market the drawing became virtually unsaleable.

It is suggested that the drawing comes from a group of fakes unmasked in *The Times* in 1978. They were marketed in London by the English artist, Eric Hebborn, who lives near Rome, in the 1960s and early 1970s. Purporting to be from the hands of various Italian masters, they ended up in some important museums.

Mr Hebborn dealt in Old Master drawings to supplement his income as an artist but has always rejected responsibility for the attribution of the drawings. "I have never posed as an expert", he told me. "It was the dealers and auctioneers who put names to the drawings."

The history of the drawing included in Christie's sale today is a mystery. The auctioneers would not reveal the name of the vendor.

When the drawing came in for sale, they had considered the possibility that it belonged to the well-known group of fakes but rejected it. The drawing bears the "R" mark of the great eighteenth-century collector, Jonathan Richardson; that was imitated on a number of the known fakes. Christie's looked at the mark under a microscope but could detect nothing wrong with it.

The vendor was also asked where the drawing came from. He was very definite that he had not bought it from Mr Hebborn; he had acquired it from a "Continental collector".

He pointed out, however, that the technique of the drawing, metal point on a prepared ground, heightened with white, was very close to a little known group of drawings unquestionably dating from the period of Verrocchio. "My best guess", he said, "is that the drawing is not by one of his Florentine pupils but by a provincial imitator."

He remained convinced of the authenticity of the drawing, but conceded that the doubts raised by dealers and museums made it virtually unsaleable.

Sale Room, page 14

Finance is offered to ensure future of Yorkshire Television

By David Hewson

Trident Television faces a serious challenge in its attempt to change the ownership of its subsidiary, Yorkshire Television, to meet the demands of the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The IBA is to meet on Thursday to discuss two possible structures for the new group, one formulated by Trident, the other by a group of rivals.

Mr Ward Thomas, the Trident chairman, said in a note to shareholders yesterday that the company had received "positive assurance of finance from eminently acceptable sources, which will ensure the future of Yorkshire Television with its present management and staff".

The identity of the backers of the rival bid remains secret, as does that of the groups supporting Trident; but they include at least one group which was involved in an unsuccessful consortium competing for a television franchise in another region last year.

Trident's results, which were announced yesterday, were qualified by the company's auditors because of its inability to reach agreement with the IBA on the future of Yorkshire.

Last December the IBA ordered Trident to relinquish majority control of both Tyne Tees and Yorkshire, which it owns outright. But by the time the IBA's initial deadline ran out three weeks ago, Trident had managed to agree in outline only the terms of the restructuring of Tyne Tees.

The IBA said that it was planning immediate discussions with both Trident and others who had expressed interest in funding new companies, and set a deadline of three weeks for the talks, which expires today.

Mr Thomas said in a note to Trident's annual report, about assurances of finance: "In our view these arrangements meet the authority's requirements that the two programme companies should be separately and adequately financed, equipped and managed.

"I hope that the IBA will now feel able to confirm the provisional award of new contracts to both companies.

Trident hopes to take a 20 per cent stake in both Tyne Tees and Yorkshire, and to rent the studios it owns back to the new companies. Tyne Tees is expected to be floated off as a separate entity next September with a £5m share issue, with a further £10m to be raised through loans.

One of the original points of contention between Trident and the IBA has been settled in three weeks, though not necessarily in the company's favour. Trident originally thought that Yorkshire was not likely to be profitable enough if it met its present commitments to attract investors.

In fact, the prospect of taking a stake in Yorkshire has proved of interest to a number of parties.

Financial Editor and Breaking German television monopoly, page 19

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, rehearsing in Hyde Park, London, yesterday for the annual inspection parade. The troop was formed in 1946 for state ceremonies.

Chemical warfare interest lands student in court

A "brilliant" student who was said to have got carried away with his researches into chemical warfare was given a conditional discharge yesterday after he admitted making a controlled drug and producing explosives.

Police found explosive fuses and powerful hallucinatory drugs at the home of Jeremy Houlding, a Worcester magistrate heard. Mr David Hallmark, for the prosecution, said experts found that the fuses were "highly efficient".

The police also discovered 94 mg of the drug DMT and chemicals that could have produced LSD, Angel's Dust and amphetamines, he said.

Mr Hallmark said police accepted that Mr Houlding, aged 21, a second-year chemistry student at Sheffield University, was experimenting

Mr Houlding was ordered to pay 448 costs, and the chemicals were confiscated.

Mr David Wright, for Mr Houlding, said he was a "brilliant young student and a very upright and responsible young man". He added: "It is obvious that he got carried away with his researches and went too far. "You are not dealing with an embryo terrorist or a bomb-happy lunatic."

Sainsbury cuts milk price by 2p a pint

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

The milk price war intensified yesterday when the Sainsbury supermarket chain cut the price of its fresh, low-fat milk by 2p a pint to 16p. That is 2½p less than the price of most full-fat, bottled milk delivered to households.

Sir John Sainsbury, chairman of the company, said: "In the past there was a cartel-like arrangement which had the effect of making milk sold in the shops dearer than on the doorstep". He did not accept that his company's cut-price product would threaten doorstep delivery of milk, but it would help to stem the decline in consumption.

In the past five years milk consumption had fallen by 13 per cent after consistent increases in the previous decade, while demand for soft drinks for children had increased by 40 per cent. "Is that clever marketing of milk?"

Mr Peter Davies, assistant managing director, said that the new product was not a substitute. "We have added milk solids and vitamins to get a taste close to that of whole milk. It is a different kind, but it *is* milk."

Dairies claim that sales of cut-price milk will threaten doorstep deliveries

Farm price complaint: The House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities complained yesterday that the timetable for settling EEC farm prices was too tight and gave insufficient leeway for debate.

Prince for New York ballet gala

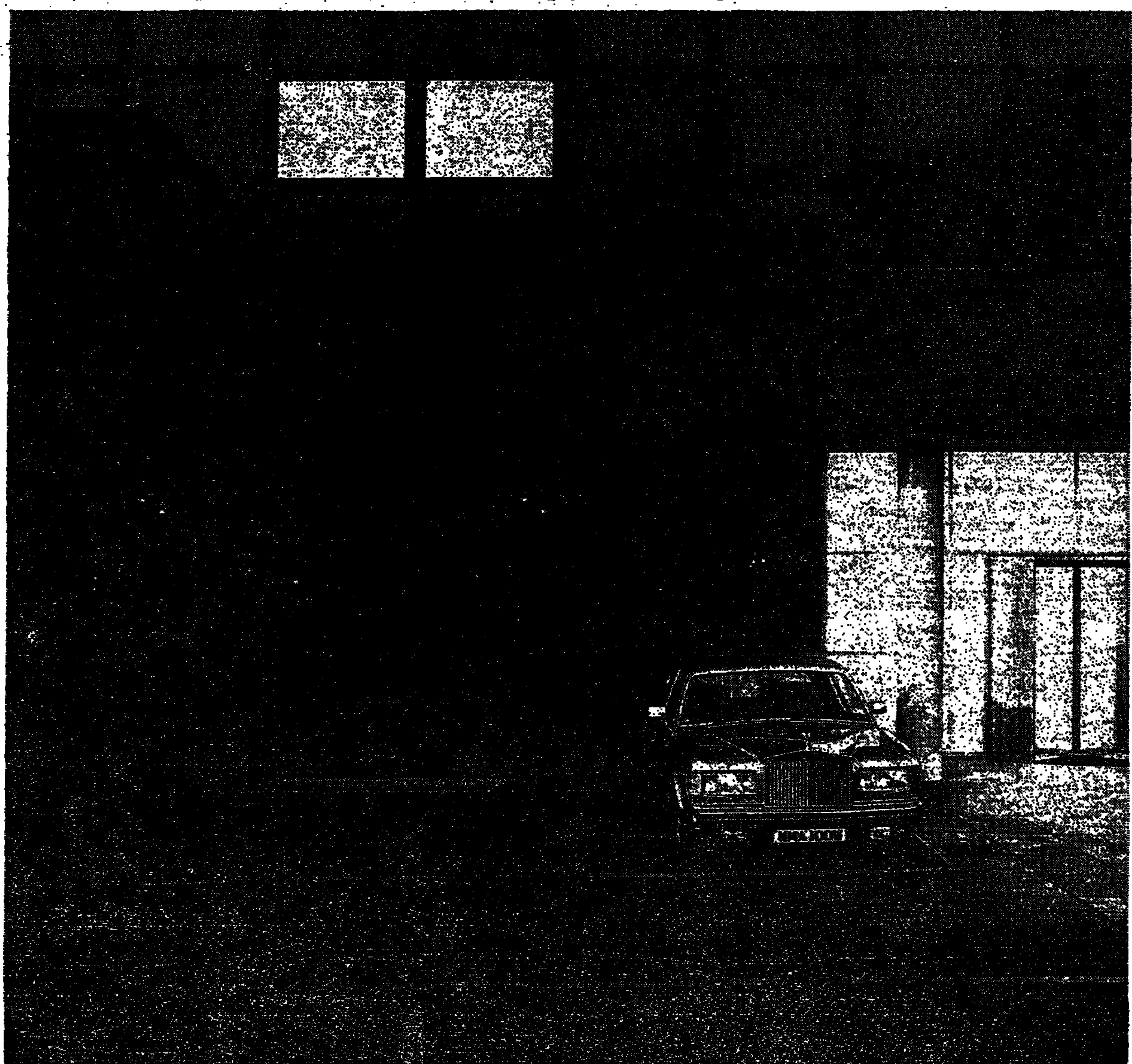
By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

The Prince of Wales is to fly to New York in June for a gala performance at the Metropolitan Opera House to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Royal Ballet.

Tickets for the ballet, a reception and a ball will cost up to $1,000 each, and the event could raise as much as $1m for charitable causes. Some of the proceeds are expected to go to the Royal Opera House's development appeal.

It is not yet known whether Lady Diana Spencer will accompany the Prince, but one guest at the performance of *The Sleeping Beauty* will be Mrs Nancy Reagan.

The gala will be held on June 17, but the Royal Ballet opens at the opera house two days earlier. It is the company's first visit to New York for five years, and forms part of a seven-week tour of North America.



IBA and ITN strongly deny claims of bias in bulletins

By Brian MacArthur

Accusations of bias and distortion in television news bulletins were strongly denied yesterday by the Independent Broadcasting Authority and Independent Television News.

In a letter to the BBC and the IBA, more than 100 professors, trade union leaders and MPs had alleged that there was bias against the trade union and labour movement in public broadcasting.

Miss Barbara Hosking, the IBA's director of information, said yesterday: "Ensuring due impartiality and preserving an equitable balance between the parties is a task the IBA takes very seriously. We do it in other ways than by listing appearances. A mere head count can be very misleading".

She added that both national and regional programmes were continually monitored by the IBA.

ITN and BBC news coverage has been criticized by the Glasgow University Media Group, which originated the letter to the BBC and the IBA, in two books, *Bad News*, and *More Bad News*, and, more recently, in the *New Statesman*.

Confidential BBC news and current affairs minutes obtained by the media group show, however, that the BBC is taking its accusations more seriously than it discloses in public statements.

For example, on January 27 the minutes record Sir Ian Trethowan, the Director General, saying that the BBC would come under increasingly critical observation from the militant left. Unlike ITN, the BBC decided to ignore the *New Statesman* article.

It was nevertheless accepted that there was "something" in what the group was saying, perhaps because broadcasters necessarily used "potted versions" of events.

BBC apologizes over patients at Broadmoor

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC acknowledged on its *Nationwide* television programme last night that it was wrong to describe Broadmoor as an institution housing 700 people "judged to be criminally insane".

It made the reference last Friday in a trailer for a three-part series that begins on Thursday, bringing a protest and a threat of High Court action from the Matthew Trust, a body that looks after the interests of mental patients.

The BBC said is accepted that the statement was not wholly accurate, as about a fifth of Broadmoor's patients were there because they were considered a danger to society.

Mr Peter Thompson, chairman of the trust, said: "The BBC has given a guarantee that this statement will not appear in any programme on Broadmoor."

Ban on jobless councillors' voting lifted

From Our Correspondent
Ludlow

The Government yesterday lifted a ban preventing five out-of-work councillors from voting on issues affecting the unemployed.

Last month five members of Wrekin District Council, at Telford, Shropshire, protested that they had been prevented from voting on a proposal to offer reduced charges at recreation centres to the unemployed because they had a financial interest.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday that he was giving the councillors a special dispensation.

Mr Simon Barber, secretary of the council, had said that the councillors were being prevented from taking decisions on a burning issue in Telford, which had the highest unemployment rate in the Midlands.

Private bus service begins

By Tim Jones

Local authorities and private enterprise transport throughout Britain will be watching Cardiff in the next six months after the launching yesterday of the first competitive bus route since the Transport Act, 1980, enabled the town hall monopoly to be challenged.

The service which will break a 50-year-old Cardiff bus monopoly comes after fierce opposition from the council, who told the Traffic Commissioners that private operators would cream off the profitable routes to the detriment of the integrated system.

Mr Keith Morris, managing director of CK Coaches Ltd, said their fares would be 12p cheaper and conductors on board would help the elderly and disabled.

Dublin 'inferno inquiry' hears of conflict over whether club's emergency exit doors were locked

From Christopher Thomas
Dublin

A judicial inquiry into the Stardust discotheque fire in Dublin on St Valentine's night, seven weeks ago, in which 48 people died and 160 were injured, heard yesterday that there was "a serious conflict of evidence" on whether some of the emergency exit doors were locked.

Mr John Lovatt-Dolan, counsel to the tribunal, said it appears that the materials used in the furniture, the wall covering and possibly the ceiling tiles could have contributed to some of the deaths and injuries.

He said the seating appeared to have been made with polyurethane filling in plastic covering. Wall and floor coverings, with the exception of the downstairs area, were of a particular kind of carpet tiling and there would be technical evidence later in the inquiry as to the effect of the materials on the spread of the fire.

Firemen had to free many people who took refuge in a lavatory, the window of which appeared to have been secured by steel plates welded on the inside of the metal frame, he said. The tribunal would have to decide if that was in accordance with safety regulations.

He said a relatively small fire was noticed at 1.40 a.m. behind a dividing curtain in an alcove on one side of the stage. "The fire spread quickly along the seats in the alcove area and seemed then to have spread on to a carpet-tiled wall at the back of the alcove, and from there to the ceiling.

"It is a matter of serious conflict that some members of the staff may have raised portions of the roller blind curtain, following which a ball of flame came hurtling across the hall at the level of the false ceiling, which was also tiled.

"It would be no exaggeration to describe the resulting spread of fire, which was rapid and intense, as an inferno".

He said the inquiry would be told that there was a sudden blackout and that at the same time the hall was enveloped in dense smoke, which choked many of patrons, making it hard for them to escape.

Some of the patrons would allege that they had to force open locked exit doors. The management did not accept that, and said that at all relevant times the doors were unlocked, Mr Lovett-Dolan said.

Det. Maurice Garde, of the Police Mapping Bureau, who carried out tests a few hours after the fire, said he found openings on lavatory windows reduced by immovable steel plates to 7½in. by 9in. He also found that two doors at the main entrance were locked, one with a steel roller bar.

He agreed with Mr Naill MacCarthy, for the proprietors of the club, that the steel plating could have been placed over the windows to prevent offensive weapons or drugs being passed in from the outside.

The inquiry, which opened with a preliminary hearing on March 2 and was adjourned until yesterday, is expected to last six weeks.

The police have taken 1,600 statements and hundreds of witnesses are expected to appear before the four-man tribunal, headed by Mr Justice Ronan Keane, a High Court judge and an expert on planning law.

The inquiry, which was adjourned until today, aims to establish the causes of the fire; the circumstances leading to loss of life and personal injury; the measures taken to deal with the fire; the adequacy of the means of escape; measures taken to ensure public safety; and the application in the law of the conduct, supervision and inspection of the premises.

The blaze was one of Ireland's worst tragedies on land. There were 841 people at the dance and there was a bar extension until 1 am. The dance was to have ended at 2 am.

An emergency Cabinet meeting ordered the inquiry the day after the disaster.

Mr Lovatt-Dolan said the Stardust property and various associated businesses were owned by a series of interlocking companies, the shareholders of which were described as being "various members of the Butterly family".

Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

Dr Eric Fenby conducting the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at a recording of works by Delius which were dictated to him by the blind composer.

Bribes trial man says he was told to flee

From a Correspondent
Middlesbrough

John Symonds, a form[er] detective sergeant in [the] Metropolitan Police, who [dis]appeared for eight years af[ter] being accused of taking brib[es] said at his trial yesterday [that] he was told by a senior offi[cer] to leave the country.

The man who told him [was] Detective Chief Superintend[ent] Alfred Moody, who conduc[ted] the bribery investigat[ion] against him 10 years ago, [he] said.

Mr Moody, later impriso[ned] for corruption, did not tell [him] directly, Mr Symonds said; [the] advice was passed down [by] other officers.

Mr Symonds, aged 45, [who] denies three charges of c[or]ruptly accepting a total of £[...] from a former criminal, t[old] the jury at Teesside Cro[wn] Court that he went to Afr[ica] where he became a soldier.

Ill health forced him to le[ave] Africa and he travelled [to] Australia and New Zeal[and] before returning to London [in] May to give himself up.

Mr Symonds, who is defe[nd]ing himself, claims that he [was] "set up" by Mr Michael Pe[rry] the former criminal. He [has] suggested that two reporters [of] *The Times* acted as *age[nts] provocateurs* by editing ta[pe] recorded conversations betw[een] himself and Mr Perry.

Mr Roy Taylor, deputy te[ch]nical manager of EMI, [was] called by Mr Symonds as [an] expert witness on the ta[pes] which were given to Scotl[and] Yard by *The Times*.

Mr Taylor said that it [was] impossible to detect whe[ther] the tapes had been edi[ted]. Cross-examined by Mr Geoff Rivlin, QC, for the prosecuti[on] Mr Taylor said: "I am [not] suggesting that there are [...] signs that these tapes h[ave] been fabricated."

The case continues today.

Remaining Bristol riot charges are dropped

By Lucy Hodges

The Director of Public Prosecutions decided yesterday not to pursue charges against the remaining four defendants in the Bristol riot trial.

The director announced that he was dropping the charges in the public interest and that an important factor in reaching his decision was advice he had received from the chief constable concerning the promotion of racial harmony in Bristol. It is believed to be the first time that has been given as a reason for dropping charges.

Mr Brian Weigh, Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset, who withdrew his men from St Paul's, Bristol, when the disturbances were at their height on April 2 last year, said he fully supported the decision.

"I would add that as far as race relations in Bristol are concerned the need is to look forward with confidence and not to dwell on the past", he said.

Mr Weigh would add nothing more to his statement. The DPP, however, said that normally, where a jury at a first trial could not agree, the prosecution would present the evidence again at a second trial.

At the recent riot trial eight people were acquitted and the jury failed to reach agreement on the remaining four.

The DPP added: "The Attorney-General has now considered, in consultation with the Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset, the Director of Public Prosecutions and senior counsel, whether that procedure should be followed in this case, and all are agreed that it would not be in the public interest to hold a further trial at the remaining four defendants."

The four defendants were Doretta Maye, aged 25, of Princess Street, Bedminster, Carlton Sharpe, aged 17, of Walton Street; Paul Binns, aged 18, and Andrew Minter, aged 17, both of Ashley Road, all Bristol.

Mr Minter was the only white man to be charged with riotous assembly. Miss Maye was also charged with maliciously wounding a policeman but that was also dropped.

Lawyers and community leaders said they thought it had been a big mistake to have brought the riot charges against a handful of people singled out from hundreds who had been involved in the disturbances. The total cost of the trial is thought to be in the region of £400,000.

"It was obviously an enormous waste of public money", Mr Peter Courtier, Bristol's community relations officer said. "While the trials were going on it was difficult to improve relationships with the police. I hope that will be behind us now.

"Our view has always been that the police were just as much responsible for what happened on that day as the people."

Mrs Gareth Pierce, one of the defending solicitors, said she wished the DPP had taken their adpice last year. When the riot charges were mooted she had written to him begging him to drop them on the ground that they would not only reopen wounds but would also create fresh ones.

The trial, which lasted for seven weeks in Bristol Crown Court and involved 17 barristers, was remarkable not only for its outcome but also for the composition of the jury.

Of the 12 members, five were non-white, and that was achieved during the jury selection process when the defendants used up 35 of their 36 sel agreed not to oppose any of the non-white jurors chosen.

Riotous assembly is regarded as an extremely serious charge, with a maximum sentence of life imprisonment, and is used rarely. It was not used, for example, after the Southall riot in London in 1978 or in connexion with disturbances in Notting Hill, also London.

The last big occasion on which it was used was in 1970, when students invaded a dinner given in Cambridge by the Greek tourist office. Some were imprisoned and sent to borstal, but they all also faced lesser charges.

Another remarkable feature of the Bristol riot trial was that all the original 16 defendants, apart from Miss Maye, faced only the riot charge.

The earlier lesser charges for which they were first arrested were dropped. They included threatening behaviour and possession of an offensive weapon, and would not have merited trial by jury.

Police used bugging to trap men

From Our Correspondent
Manchester

Detectives bugged a ho[tel] room to trap two businessm[en] deoling in sstolen painti[ngs] worth more than £40.000, M[an]chester Crown Court was t[old] yesterday.

From an adjoining suite [the] police heard the two men a[nd] their Dutch customers negoti[ate] the price of a Renoir, a Matis[se] and an insigned work thou[ght] to be by Cézanne, Mr Jo[...] Hugill, QC, for the prosecuti[on] said.

When they were about to [be] handed over, the police inte[r]vened. The paintings had be[en] stolen in a £58,000 raid on [an] Elizabethan mansion near D[r...]field, Humberside, 10 mont[hs] earlier.

Mr Hugill said that t[he] "customers" were a Dut[ch] detective and his informar[t] who had been working close[ly] with local officers to trace t[he] men selling the paintings f[or] half their value in Februa[ry] last year.

Denis Wilson, aged 41, [of] Didsbury, Manchester, was se[nt] to prison for five years a[nd] John Bhagwanani, aged 51, [of] Pineland Road, Chilwort[h] Southampton, was jailed for tw[o] years.

Mr Wilson, the owner of [a] discount furniture warehouse [in] Manchester, admitted handlin[g] the paintings and receivin[g] three diamond rings, wort[h] £4,500, which had been stole[n] in a £19,500 raid on a jeweller['s] shop in Bolton, Lancashire.

Mr Bhagwanani admitte[d] assisting in the disposal of th[e] stolen paintings. The court wa[s] told that Mr Wilson was foun[d] in possession of one of th[e] stolen rings.

Mr George Carman, QC, fo[r] Mr Bhagwanani, said he was [a] man of great commercia[l] intergrity. It was not until th[e] paintings had been bought an[d] valued that they knew they ha[d] been stolen. He tried to help i[n] their disposal, but he woul[d] not have gained financially.

Mr Daniel Brennan, for M[r] Wilson, said he had establishe[d] a sound business which ha[d] been badly affected by th[e] recession.

In brief

Foot-and-mouth curb ends soon

Restrictions on the movement of animals in the Isle of Wight, imposed because of the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, are expected to be lifted in about a week's time, provided tests on two new suspected cases prove negative. The results are expected today.

The restrictions on livestock movements in Hampshire and Dorset, opposite the island, were lifted at midnight on Sunday.

PC for trial

Police Constable Arthur Pollock, aged 22, of Ravenscourt Police Section House, Hammersmith, was committed for trial at the Inner London Crown Court by Horseferry Road magistrates yesterday charged with attempting to obtain £975 by deception from the Paramount Insurance Company Ltd by falsely representing that

Train attacked

Police were yesterday searching for a gang of youths who fired air guns and threw stones at a Nottingham-bound train carrying a party of children. The train was forced to stop in Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, to have broken glass cleared.

Anaesthetist fined

Dr Betty Ling, aged 51, a consultant anaesthetist at Manor House Hospital, Golders Green, London, was fined £175 and disqualified from driving for a year by Hendon magistrates yesterday for driving while unfit through drink and assaulting a police officer.

Two paintings missing

Two seventeenth-century paintings, of King Charles II and his Queen, Catherine of Braganza, have disappeared from Westminster School, London. They were valued at £350 each and had been at the school for more than 100 years.

£300.000 damages

Mr John Cluley, the former director of Clarke Cluley, an engineering company, of Kenilworth, Warwickshire, was awarded damazese of £300.000 in a settled High Court action yesterday for injuries in a road accident six years ago.
qSsawort

Strike closes airport

A strike by 200 firemen and grolund staff closed Belfast airport yesterday. They have been offered a wage increase of 9 per cent, but have rejected conditions attached to it by the Northern Ireland Airports Authority.

Botanist found dead

Mr Dilwyn Morgan, aged 61, a botanist, of Treherbert, Mid-Glamorgan, who went on the Brecon Beacon to sow the seeds of rare wild flowers to prevent them from becoming extinct, was found dead on Sunday, police said yesterday.

Driver decapitated

Trooper Mark William James, age d20, of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, was decapitated by flying barbed wire while driving a Scimitar tank last weekend on exercises on Salisbury Plain, it was disclosed yesterday.

Alarms to be ignored

Bedfordshire police said yesterday that they would ignore automatic alarm calls from firms with a bad record of false alarms. Last year 97 per cent of the 6,127 calls they received were false.

Trains disrupted

Main line train services to and from South Wales were badly disrupted again yesterday by unofficial guards' action over new timetables.

Computers in schools plan starts

A Government-backed scheme to put a microcomputer into every secondary school by the end of next year was launched in London yesterday by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

The Department of Industry will give up to £4m in its "micros in schools" programme to match pound-for-pound spending by local authorities on computers. The Department of Education is launching a £10m microelectronics education programme.

Mrs Thatcher told a Press conference: "We want to be in this world of microcomputers and we want to be in it big". She described the "micros in schools" programmes as an exciting adventure. "It is a very important first step in the Government's information technology programme."

The Government would use public purchasing to help British-based manufacturers

She added: "Our future prosperity depends in large part on the quality of education today.

Mrs Thatcher hoped that parent associations and local industry would become involved in raising finance for school computers; the cheapest would require a contribution of only £130.

Fears for academic standards

By Our Education Correspondent

The Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA), the main validating body for degrees in the public sector, said yesterday that the government cuts in funding for polytechnics and colleges could lead to courses falling below the standards acceptable for continued council approval.

The council has written to 135 institutions which provide courses leading to CNAA awards, asking them to assess the potential effects on academic standards of cuts planned for 1981-82.

Replies have been requested by the end of May "so that there is time, before students are admitted to courses in the session 1981-82, for the discussion of any major difficulties".

Early replies had produced a mixed picture, Dr Edwin Kerr, the council's chief officer, said yesterday. Some institutions wehe hardly being cut at all, others were being severely cut.

"The picture is so variable that it causes one to reflect on the rightness of the present system for resource allocation in the public sector", Dr Kerr said.

MPs lobbied on transport

Thousands of transport workers took part in a lobby of the House of Commons yesterday, and a rally near by, to protest at government policies that unions claim are leading to deterioration in public transport services.

The action was part of the TUC's "week of activities" in protest at the Government's social and economic policies. Further demonstrations and protest meetings are to be held throughout the country over the next five days.

Mr Whitelaw condemns rise in racial attacks

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, sought yesterday to cool the temperature in race relations and reassure the black and Asian communities over recent racialist attacks

Opening a seminar in Manchester, Mr Whitelaw accepted that there had been disturbing reports of an increase in racialist activity, from abuse to physical attacks on members of the ethnic minorities and their property.

Much of it seemed to be the work of young people, he said. "As a society we cannot tolerate those who seek in our ethnic communities a scapegoat for our problems. This is a poisonous development, which I take very seriously. I know the police share my view."

Mr Whitelaw said his officials would be gathering information countrywide as part of his inquiry into racialist attacks and the activities of extremist organizations.

He reiterated the Government's absolute commitment to "a multi-racial society, to equality of opportunity and justice for all".

Much progress had been made towards creating a more just society.

Woman seeks compensation for children refused entry

By a Staff Reporter

Mrs Anwar Ditta, who last month won a prolonged battle against the Home Office for permission for her children in Pakistan to join her in Britain, is to ask the Government for compensation.

Her solicitor wrote to the Home Office yesterday to ask that she and her husband be compensated for the five years during which they were deprived of their children.

"None of the children speak English and they will have enormous problems of general and educational adjustment to face upon arrival", the letter said.

The Home Office had claimed that the three children, aged 11, nine and eight, were not hers. After a long investigation, in which a doctor was sent from London to Pakistan, the *World in Action* television programme produced blood tests which supported what Mrs Ditta had maintained.

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, agreed to reconsider her case in the light of that and other evidence and decided that the children should be allowed in.

The Home Office said yesterday that it would consider the requtst for compensation.

Her solicitor's letter said compensation was asked for in the light of "the compelling evidence submitted to you in the form of affadavits from midives, the iman ho performed the marriage ceremony, other people who knew Anwar and her family, and the evidence produced from the various record-keeping offices".

That was all information which, the letter said, was obtained within days of arrival in Pakistan and would have required the absolute minimum amount of effort by the British Embassy in Islamabad to obtain.

It involved an hour's journey to the south of an hour and a half to the north.

Mrs Ditta, who was born in Birmingham in 1953, will consider appealing to the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg if compensation is refused.

Compensation was offered in 1979 to an Asian who had been subjected to gynaecological tests at Heathrow airport.

Mrs Ditta mounted a lengthy public campaign to get permission for her children to join her and her husband in Britain, and she spoke at 400 public meetings in various parts of the country.

She was brought up in Rochdale and returned to Pakistan at the age of nine aftrr her parents separated. She married in 1968 and had three children.

Her husband came to England in 1974 and she followed a year later to buy a house and to find work before applying for her children to join her.

Whitehall brief: How Wilson report may avoid paths to the pigeon hole

Photograph by Warren Harrison

The Public Records Committee (from the left): Mr Graham Aylett, Mrs H. Hughes-Jones (secretariat), Sir Paul Osmond, Sir Duncan Wilson, Professor Margaret Gowing and Miss J. E. A. Hart (secretariat).

Fight by the 'good and the great'

By Peter Hennessy

The "good and great" are starting to fight back. The distinguished men and women who people royal commissions and committees of inquiry are no longer prepared to sit back and watch their reports pass down the thousand-and-one "pathways to the pigeon hole". That apt phrase is from Professor Bernard Williams, who will be delivering a paper on the subject at a Royal Institute of Public Administration conference at Sussex University on Friday.

Lord Rothschild began the process with an outspoken address to the British Academy in 1978 and an article in *The Times* the next year about the fate of his Royal Commission on Gambling. Last week Sir Duncan Wilson's Public Records Committee took up the torch by showing every determination to prevent its report being sabotaged by what one Whitehall insider called "the classic *Yes Minister* tactics", which look almost certain to be deployed against it.

The committee won the first round by raising the stakes for any Cabinet that ignores its findings. It promulgated as its central observation the fact that a previous body, the Grigg Committee on Public Records, produced a system of exemplary soundness which in 1981, 29 years after it first sat, has still not been implemented properly. It began its work in 1952, reported in 1954 and saw its recommendations enshrined in the Public Records Act, 1958.

"We believe". Sir Duncan, a former ambassador to Moscow, Professor Margaret Gowing, a member of the Grigg Committee and official historian of atomic energy, and Sir Paul Osmond, former secretary to the Church Commissioners, wrote, "that our report is a sobering commentary on the ability of government to implement administrative reforms which it accepted wholeheartedly and embodied in legislation."

Decoded from the language of White Papers, that message reads: "Will Mrs Margaret Thatcher's Government please do what the Macmillan, Home, Wilson, Heath and Callaghan Administrations failed to do and live up to the spirit and letter of the 1958 Act to ensure that important files are not lost or shredded but moved on time into the public domain after the expiry of 30 years."

The Wilson committee has a point. None of the usual alibis for Whitehall inertia or incapacity apply. Ministers cannot blame Opec, the trade unions or fickle electorate for failing to keep the collective memory of government intact for the benefit of both departments and posterity.

If central government, with a staff of 695,100 and an annual running cost of £8,300m (the public records system accounts for £11.7m) cannot keep its own files in order, what successes can be expected of it in other more demanding areas such as managing the economy or sustaining a defence capability?

The immediate omens for the Wilson report are bad. An Official Cabinet Committee on Public Records is already in being under Mr John Bergin, a deputy secretary in the Lord Chancellor's Department. Once the committee receives guidance from ministers it will set to work costing the Wilson reforms.

Ministers, given the economic climate, are almost certain to say that not a penny more or a single extra civil servant can be devoted to records work. Mr Bergin's committee will then dutifully report that to upgrade certain records staff and to improve facilities for such things as machine redable, that is computerized or other mechanical forms of records, could cost a great deal.

The Government will delay the Lord Chancellor's reply to the report until the autumn. That reply is likely to say that austerity prevents the implementation of otherwise laudable proposals, while omitting to mention that ministers and permanent secretaries, breaking the habits of a lifetime and assuming their proper personal responsibilities under the 1958 Act the most important of the Wilson reforms—would not add 50p to the public sector borrowing requirement.

There is hope, however, that a *Yes, Minister* result can be averted. MPs and newspapers are interested and will not let the subject die. Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Wandsworth, Battersea South, is to ask the Leader of the House to allow the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs to monitor public records policy (at present all aspects of the work of the Lord Chancellor's Department are debarred from scrutiny by Parliamentary committees).

It would help, too, if schools of public policy in universities and polytechnics adopted the subject as a test case of policy implementation over a 30-year period, not to mention Mr Antony Jay and Mr Jonathan Lynn, the inspired authors of *Yes, Minister*.

In that event, should Mr Bergin's committee and the ministers to whom it will report maintain the inertia of the past, they will at least have the consolation of achieving permanent notoriety and immortality by textbook and celluloid.

Former war pilots campaign to stop the sale of military aircraft collection

Regional report
Ronald Faux
Strathallan

Old aircraft have a sound, style and scent that can now rarely be experienced outside memory. One more chance to hear the waspish power of a piston-engined fighter and the forbidding drone of a Lancaster bomber is about to slip away unless a Scottish baronet changes his mind and holds on to one of the most valuable collections of military aircraft in the world.

A group of Second World War servicemen and the Royal Scottish Museum have so far failed to persuade Sir William Denby Roberts not to sell the Strathallan historic aircraft collection in Perthshire by auction this summer.

The campaign is supported by Air Vice-Marshal Johnnie Johnson, the former fighter pilot, Captain Alec Mackenzie, Lancaster Pathfinder pilot, and Professor R. V. Jones, of Aberdeen University. If interest stirs among the international community of aircraft fanciers, the sale in July by Christie's could realize more than £1m.

Many of the Strathallan aircraft are more than mere museum pieces; they actually fly. Crowds of more than 20,000 turn up at the airfield on the days the veteran aircraft take to the air, and more than 60,000 visit the aircraft museum there each year.

Other leading figures in the aviation world who have added their names to the campaign to save the collection include Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Neil Cameron, who is closely involved with the RAF museum at Hendon. He has suggested that the Strathallan collection might be saved to become a Scottish branch of the national collection. That idea has been endorsed by Air Vice-Marshal D. C. A. Lloyd, the Air Officer Commanding Scotland.

The Scottish Aircraft Collection Trust has been formed to try to keep the aircraft in Scotland, but the appeals have flown over the head of Sir William, who founded his collection 11 years ago and insists that he has to sell because of mounting value-added tax and rates bills. He said he had tried to wring some sympathy from the taxman, but to no avail.

Air Vice-Marshal Johnson believed that it would be tragic if the collection was broken up. "There is everything there associated with the aerial struggle during the Second World War. There are the trainer aircraft that produced the pilots, the fighters that held back the invasion and the bombers that took the Allies on to the offensive", he said. The flying examples included a superbly restored Lysander, the whispering monoplane used to land secret agents in France; the Mosquito fighter-bomber, one of the few still flying, and the only Hurricane fighter in private hands still able to leave the ground.

Captain Mackenzie flew the collection's Lancaster bomber to Strathallan from western Canada. "I appreciate that Sir William owns the aircraft and can do what he likes with them, but at the same time the collection has become so important."

The Royal Scottish Museum, which controls the Museum of Flight at East Fortune Airfield, near Edinburgh, is keen to see as many Strathallan aircraft as possible kept in Scotland

Mr Robert Brooks, head of Christie's vintage car and historic aircraft department, said that 25 aircraft would be auctioned. The Hurricane alone was expected to reach six figures. There was great enthusiasm for historic aircraft in America, Australia, Europe and Britain, and the sale would be advertised all over the world.

Bribes trial man says he was told to flee

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Solidarity adviser says Soviet intervention is only hope for Polish party's hardliners

Warsaw, April 6.—The Warsaw branch of Solidarity, the free trade union federation, quoted today one of its top advisers, Mr Jan Olszewski, as saying that only "intervention" could save Communist Party hardliners from being defeated by rebellious rank-and-file members.

The party is at present in the throes of an election campaign which could lead to a profound shake-up in its leadership. Officials are being elected by secret ballot from an unlimited number of candidates at all levels, in preparation for a national party congress to be held before July 20.

The campaign is going ahead despite apparent misgivings among the hardliners, led by Mr Stefan Olszowski, a member of the Politburo, who is representing Poland alongside Mr Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, at the Czechoslovak party congress in Prague.

There were no signs of special political activity in Warsaw, where a session of the Sejm (Parliament) had been postponed from today to Friday because of what was described as the indisposition of Mr Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister. The official news agency PAP reported today that Mr Jaruzelski had gone down with a throat infection, which was now mild.

Officials also announced that a new law drastically relaxing censorship had been submitted formally to the Sejm.

For the first time since the war, MPs will have two sets of proposals to choose from. A draft proposal to curb censorship was submitted late last year by the Justice Ministry, but rejected as inadequate by intellectuals and Solidarity, who then drew up their own version.

Differences in the Two Bills include which publications are to be exempted and what penalties should be imposed. Both sides agree that scholarly works, religious texts, statistical publications, materials published before 1918, parliamentary speeches and court verdicts should no longer be subject to censorship.

The intellectuals also want exemption for bulletins of registered organizations, including unions, and want censors' deletions to be marked by some symbol.—Reuter.

Romanian reforms: A trade union congress in Bucharest began work today on proposed reforms, apparently intended to head off labour unrest similar to that which has swept Poland. President Ceausescu called for a shorter working week and urged unions to do more for their members.

He told union leaders that their organizations should not be subordinated to the Communist Party, but "should act through party members inside the unions".—AP.

Manoeuvres continue: Tank and troop reinforcements drafted into the Warsaw Pact's joint manoeuvres over the weekend, have been assembled in the centre of East Germany, according to press reports in East Berlin.

The official newspaper *Neues Deutschland* said tanks and armoured cars had been loaded onto trains at bases throughout the "central sector" in preparation for new combat operations in the war games.—Reuter.

Naval and air alert as plans are made to house refugees

Swedes would protect Poles fleeing invasion

From A Special Correspondent
Stockholm, April 6

Sweden has prepared a complex scheme of air and naval defence to be put into operation if the Soviet Army invades Poland.

Air and naval reconnaisance has already been increased along the Baltic coast around southern Sweden, and naval commanders have specific instructions to defend any ships especially those which may carry refugees from Poland, should they enter Swedish territorial waters.

The Swedish Government has also asked local authorities in the southern provinces of Skane and Smaland to prepare for possible influx of thousands of Polish refugees. In the towns of Ystad, Snarestad and Trelleborg, officials have compiled lists of schools, holiday camps and even theatres which could be used to house Poles who might be expected to flee their country.

The Swedes are emphasizing that their contingency plans do not represent any kind of prediction about the outcome of the Polish crisis and that they are only taking measures which any country would adopt in the same circumstances. But Sweden has no intention of compromizing its neutrality if the Soviet Army enters Poland, and is therefore making no secret of its heightened naval and air alert.

Swedish refugee planning is a natural historical consequence of the past 42 years when the country received refugees from Poland, in 1939, and from the Baltic states.

In Stockholm, however, officials also have a small historical nightmare. In the Second World War Polish naval craft sought sanctuary in Sweden. At least one submarine surrendered to the Swedish Navy in 1939 and its crew was taken to Stockholm for internment. The government here is anxious to avoid the possibility of any defecting Polish naval vessels running for Swedish waters.

Its instructions to Swedish naval commanders, however, are strict to the point of legal nicety, so far as civilian craft are concerned. As one source put it: "If there is a military conflict in Poland and Polish refugees take a boat to Sweden, the Swedish Navy can assist them in international waters, by answering a distress call.

"Once on board a Swedish ship, Polish refugees would effectively be on Swedish territory and they would be safe. If another navy, the Soviet Navy, stops them first, then there is nothing we can do for them.

"If they reach Swedish territorial waters 12 miles from our coastline, then they are under our protection. If anyone else tries to molest them then, the Swedish Navy will interfere. If necessary, it will start shooting."

Such words are not normally heard in Stockholm but the Swedes are apparently in no mood to allow any naval power to play fast and loose with Swedish territorial waters.

Despite the occasionally indulgent attitude adopted by Western European countries towards its armed forces, the Swedish Army and Air Force would represent a very considerable opponent.

Sweden is the most powerful neutral in Europe and possesses as many interceptor fighters—432 Viggen and Saab aircraft—as Nato has in the whole of northern Europe. Many of these aircraft can use highways as emergency landing strips and a fair proportion of the Swedish Navy is based in docks made of solid rock.

The military authorities here believe that some of their heavy defence artillery in the Swedish archipelago is so well embedded in cliffsides that it could withstand all but a direct nuclear hit.

The Swedes have tried to let other nations know that they are prepared to open fire if their neutrality is infringed. Twice in the past six months, submarines have been observed off the Swedish coast and on one occasion the Swedish Navy dropped depth charges near the offending vessel to persuade it to leave territorial waters.

A crewman on a Swedish frigate who first saw the submarine submerge later made a drawing of the vessel and from it the authorities concluded that it was from a Warsaw Pact country.

The Swedish Navy is well aware of Soviet and East German naval movements in the Baltic. The Russians in their turn are keeping a weather eye on other navies. Three Warsaw Pact minesweepers are at present on permanent station in the Oresund, between Denmark and southern Sweden, monitoring every ship that passes through the strait.

Nato likely 'to be transforme[d] in 1980s

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Nato might have reache[d a] turning point in its history, John Nott, the British Def[ence] Secretary, said in Bonn [last] night. The next 10 years w[ould] see a transformation in def[ence] more significant than change during the past qu[arter] century.

Mr Nott also dropped b[road] hints upon the way his [mind] was working as he prepar[es to] conduct his own review [of] British defence policy in [an] attempt to make Britain's [com]mitments come into line [with] available cash.

He was speaking to [the] Society of Foreign Policy o[n the] eve of a meeting of N[ato's] Nuclear Planning Group. [He] flew to West Germany wit[h Mr] Caspar Weinberger, his A[meri]can counterpart.

"Technological change [is] accelerating and the p[ublic] mood has become questioning," he said. "Sor[ne of] us are trying to spread [our] efforts too thinly over too [many] tasks and we are going to [have] to concentrate our effor[ts to] achieve a more effective [out]put".

The reference to sprea[ding] resources too thinly is si[gnifi]cant because of recent sp[ecula]tion over the British Go[vern]ment's long-term intentio[n to] reduce the number of bu[rdens] which have to be met fro[m the] national defence budget.

Mr Nott said Britain not [only] provided troops in West [Ger]many, but found 70 per ce[nt of] Nato naval forces in the ea[stern] Atlantic, in addition to [main]taining an independent nu[clear] deterrent.

"Our commitment to forward defence of Germa[ny is] not in doubt. It is ne[ither] under review nor questio[ned]. There was, however, a lim[it to] how far Britain's de[fence] spending could go as it [was] already a much higher pr[opor]tion of gross national pr[oduct] than any other European ally.

"So I have no choice b[ut to] examine very critically defence outputs. The in[puts] are fixed—we are committe[d to] the 3 per cent rise called f[or by] Nato—but the outputs need to be varied within a context."

Mr Nott said that he did [not] envisage any change in [the] alliance's doctrine of the d[ete]rents

Invasion by osmosis, Mr Weinberger says

By Our Diplomatic Staff

The Soviet Union had already invaded Poland by a process of osmosis, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Secretary of Defence, said yesterday.

Speaking during visits to two Nato air bases in Britain during his first official journey abroad as Secretary of Defence, he said the West had always faced the problem of whether Soviet action would be "a standard conventional-type invasion, or an invasion by osmosis in which there's a gradual filtering in" with additions to the Russian divisions that had already been in Poland for a long time.

The fine line between different types of military activity had always been hard to draw, he said, but what was taking place now was "intended to have the same coercive effect on the Polish people that an invasion would have".

Asked when a response from the Nato allies might become necessary, Mr Weinberger replied: "I think we've seen a fair amount of allied response already." He hoped there would be more at the Nato nuclear planning group meeting in Bonn today and that there would be "concerted statements and concerted economic, political and diplomatic activity".

The difficulty with economic measures was how to do something that would not hurt the Polish people but would hit the root cause of crisis, which was the Soviet threat.

An American correspondent asked whether by its constant comments on the gravity of the Polish situation, the United States Administration was not guilty of brinkmanship. That was absolutely wrong, Mr Weinberger said.

If anyone who made such criticism had the opportunity of looking at some of the information coming in, they would not question the gravity of the situation, Mr John Nott, the British Defence Secretary, who travelled to the air bases with Mr Weinberger, concurred.

Soviet military activity was still consistent with manoeuvres, Mr Weinberger said, but this was getting less and less credible the longer the activity continued. "We just hope that their actions start to be reversed. If they are indeed manoeuvres, as the Soviets have said, we would hope the manoeuvres will be declared over and the reinforcements will go home."

The American Defence Secretary said that apart from Poland the nuclear planning group's meeting would be devoted to discussing implementation of agreements for the strengthening of theatre nuclear forces be dismissed American criticism of him for postponing the meeting because of the crisis created by the assassination attempt on President Reagan.

Such criticism reflected "incomplete knowledge of Nato and the ability of one country to move such meetings around to suit their own convenience".

Asked what assurances he could offer British people who opposed the stationing of cruise missiles, Mr Weinberger said the Nato defence system was the best nuclear deterrent available.

Mr Weinberger's day began with a flying visit with Mr Nott to RAF Cottesmore in South Leicestershire. They then flew to RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk

Spring exercise: The destroyer London, flying the flag of Admiral Sir James Eberle, Commander in Chief, Fleet, for the last time at sea in his present command, led a formation of nine Royal Navy warships into Gibraltar on Friday. The ships, together with vessels of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and aircraft of the Royal Air Force, are exercising this week in the annual national naval exercise "Springtrain" in the eastern Atlantic and western Mediterranean.

The ships are the destroyers London (leading and Bristol (rear), and the frigates Ariadne, Euryalus, Minerva, Naiad, Rothesay, Bacchante and Achilles (not in that order).

They were joined by the submarines Otus and Sovereign in Gibraltar at the weekend.

Giscard slur angers Whitehall

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Ministers in London are angry about the accusation made in France on Thursday by President Giscard d'Estaing that the British Government is trying to change the rules of the European Community "in the course of the game", and that 1981 will be the "year of truth" when it is seen whether the United Kingdom really accepts the rules.

Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal and acting Foreign Secretary, is likely to make a robust reply to this charge when he speaks in the House of Commons tomorrow in a debate on Community affairs.

British ministers say the charge is completely untrue, and that it comes rather oddly from a country which has not exactly been noted for its religious observance of the rules so far.

Space shuttle countdown begins for Friday launch

From Michael Leapman
New York, April 6

The countdown to next Friday's launching of the space shuttle Columbia began as planned last night, despite an electrical fault which had threatened to delay it. By early afternoon the count was three hours behind schedule; but this may be absorbed in the 30hr 20min "cushion" of hold time built into it.

"Set three days, one hour, zero minutes" said Mr Andy Brown, the official in charge of the countdown, just before 11.30 pm Eastern Standard Time (5.30 am BST) last night, at the launching centre at Cape Canaveral in Florida. "Commence counting at 4.30 pm Greenwich Mean Time."

Adding the hold time to the time Mr Brown specified, the launch should take place at 6.50 am EST on Friday. The 54hr 30min flight will end on Air Force Base in California.

Yesterday's fault was in a "pogo" valve, whose function is to prevent the spacecraft from being shaken to pieces by oscillation in the rocket engines. The valve opened without being told to.

After hours of frantic searching for the trouble, it was traced to a short-circuit and patched up. Officials decided to start the countdown on schedule, although other pre-la[unch] checks which should have [been] made yesterday will now h[ave] to be done in one of "hold" periods to keep countdown on time.

The decision not to post[pone] the start of the countd[own] shows how anxious sp[ace] officials are that this m[uch] delayed project should get [off] the ground on Friday [as] planned. After so many h[old]ups over the past three ye[ars] they feel a further one wo[uld] make them look silly.

Every such decision has t[o be] calculated closely. They wo[uld], after all, look even sillier if hurrying the preparatory w[ork] they were to cause an e[ven] bigger problem, causing mission to be delayed lon[ger] or even to fail completely.

Today's three-hour delay caused by another short-circ[uit] and leak in a valve feed[ing] oxygen to the craft. B[oth] faults were traced and [cor]rected.

At Houston, Texas, yes[ter]day, Captain John Young [and] Captain Robert Crippen, pilots of this first reusa[ble] space vehicle, had their fi[nal] meetings with their famil[ies] before the flight. They [will] now go into near-isolation [to] avoid picking up any illn[ess] which could delay the laun[ch].

Japan agrees to sanctions if Poland is invaded

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, April 6

Japan, the leading potential donor of economic and technical assistance for the development of Siberia, has agreed to join the Western democracies and impose sanctions against Moscow if the Soviet Union invades Poland.

The warning was issued in Tokyo today when Lord Carrington met Mr Masayoshi Ito, the Japanese Foreign Minister, for talks on Poland, Afghanistan, Indo-China and the controversial subject of Japan's lop-sided trade surplus with the EEC.

Informed sources close to the British Foreign Secretary said that Lord Carrington arrived in Tokyo yesterday convinced that the threat of economic sanctions might not carry weight in Moscow unless Japan, the world's second industrial power, was prepared to join a Western response to Soviet intervention in Poland.

Meeting Mr Ito for talks in Tokyo this morning, Lord Carrington is reported to have said that he did not think that a Soviet invasion of Poland was imminent but military intervention might become a clear possibility if the situation in Poland deteriorated.

In the case of intervention Britain would support the imposition of economic measures against the Soviet Union, Lord Carrington said. He went on to imply that the threat of sanctions might not deter Moscow if Japan did not support the West.

Mr Ito is reported to have assured Lord Carrington that if Poland was invaded Japan was prepared to impose stricter measures against the Soviet Union than those imposed at the time of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Earlier this month Soviet officials visited Tokyo in an attempt to persuade the Japanese Export Import Bank to supply Moscow with financial and technical assistance to develop Siberia's resources and construct a 2,500 mile pipeline to bring natural gas from the Yamal Peninsula in western Siberia to west Europe. Japan is still to decide whether it will help the Soviet Union.

Lord Carrington went on today to claim that the Soviet Union now finds itself confronted with uncertainties in many areas—the difficulties of maintaining its troops in Afghanistan, the strain of providing assistance to Vietnam and now the issue of Poland.

Officials who attended the meeting said Lord Carrington believed these factors might deter the Soviet Union from invading Poland but both West Europe and the United States had left the leadership in Moscow without any doubts of the consequences of intervention.

Turning to Vietnam's military presence in Cambodia, Lord Carrington told Mr Ito that Britain believed that Mr Pol Pot should not remain the focus of resistance in the attempt to drive Vietnamese troops out of the country.

Taking up economic issues during a second round of talks tonight, Lord Carrington is reported to have reminded the Japanese Government that the EEC's huge trade deficit with Japan rose to an all time record of more than $9,000m (£4,090m) last year.

While Lord Carrington emphasized that he was not representing the EEC in any official capacity he warned Japanese leaders tonight that Japan could no longer concentrate a torrent of exports on narrow and sensitive sectors of the European market.

TUC threat to cut links if Warsaw Pact invades

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

British trade union leaders have warned Eastern block embassies, and national trade union centres in East European capitals, that all links will be broken off if the Warsaw Pact countries invade Poland.

The TUC International Committee, in an unusually explicit move yesterday, publicized a message it had sent to union confederations in East Europe conveying support for the Polish independent union federation Solidarity and insisting: "Poland should be left to solve its problems peacefully and free of any external coercion."

This public warning was preceded by private cautions to diplomats in London that the price of any armed incursion into Poland would be an immediate rupture in East-West union contacts, which are highly prized by the Soviet Union and its allies.

The initiative for the warning came yesterday from Mr Tom Jackson, the postal workers' leader, who is chairman of the International Committee. He was supported strongly by Mr Frank Chapple, the electricians' general secretary, and Mr David Basnett, leader of the General and Municipal Workers' Union.

There was no serious dissent, although some union leaders argued that the TUC ought to make approaches to the British Government before going direct to the national union confederations in East Europe. In the event, the committee strongly reaffirmed its support and recognition of Solidarity as "the independent and established organization overwhelmingly representative of Polish workers".

If there is outside intervention in the affairs of Poland the continuing exchanges between British and Soviet block unions will be put at risk.

President given briefings

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, April 6

President Reagan is making a good recovery, a week after being shot, according to hospital officials

He is given regular briefings on matters of national security, the most important at the moment being the situation in Poland. These briefings are given by his staff, and by Vice-President Bush.

Meanwhile, the other men injured in the shooting continue to recover. The most seriously wounded, Mr James Brady, the White House Press Secretary, is making a remarkable recovery from a wound in the head, although doctors say it may be a year before it is known how complete his rocovery will be.

Medical risks, page 12

Spain initiates its claim for 'Guernica'

From Our Own Correspondent
Madrid, April 6

Spain has decided officially to seek the return of Picasso's famous painting "Guernica", inspired by the Spanish civil war, from the New York Museum of Modern Art. A senior Spanish diplomat, accompanied by a lawyer, is flying tonight from Madrid to New York to start the process.

Señor Inigo Cavero, the Minister of Culture, said recently he expected the painting to go on show in Madrid this summer.

The presence of the lawyer is taken here as a sign that the Spanish Government may still have to overcome objections from two members of the painter's family.

Radical economic reforms proposed by M Marchais

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, April 6

Although M Georges Marchais, the Communist candidate, was the first on the starting line for the presidential elections—he began his campaign in mid-October—he shows no obvious signs of wear and tear. It is no small achievement for a man of 60.

At a press conference today he held forth for more than 90 minutes about his economic plan if elected President on May 10, with a blend of seriousness and humour that he combines so well.



Every candidate feels it incumbent upon him to produce a detailed plan of what he would do about the economy and unemployment. M Marchais produced his today, after the other three main candidates had already done so. He even claimed his was the only clear and straight-forward one.

His plan would be financed in part by a rise in production of 4.5 per cent, partly by "anti-capitalist" reforms. The object of the plan was to create 1.5 million new jobs, and thus reduce the number of unemployed by a million.

The Communist candidate proposed nine measures to achieve this plan. They included a stop to factory closures, industrial reorganization, the stimulation of national production and popular consumption.

He would do this by increasing the minimum wage to 3,300 francs (297) a month, increasing old age pensions and family allowances, and by exempting two million taxpayers from tax. He would propose a cut in "excessive imports" and the protection of national industries in difficulty; a 35-hour working week without loss of earnings; the suppression of all casual labour, and a professional training programme for young people and adults without skills.

Other Marchais methods include anti-capitalist reforms such as a moratorium on dividends for two years, a levy on all higher incomes and on the profits of banks and finance companies, a 100 per cent tax on non-invested profits, a wealth tax and steps to secure the repatriation of French capital.

Finally the Communist leader called for the implementation of "great democratic reforms" like nationalization, worker participation, and increased powers for joint works councils.

A great deal of this would have to be done quickly, soon after his election, he said. It was the condition of success.

Mr Haig hints at US help for Israel to maintain military edge in region

From Moshe Brilliant
Jerusalem, April 6

Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, talked to government and military leaders here today of helping Israel maintain its military "qualitative edge" in the region after the Reagan Administration delivers sophisticated weapons to Arab countries dedicated to its destruction.

A participant in the discussions said the officials talked in terms of increasing American purchases, including military procurements, in Israel which would boost the country's sophisticated industries. Easier credit terms for Israeli procurements in the United States were also discussed.

Meeting the press outside the Prime Minister's office before he flew on to Amman for the third leg of his Middle East tour, Mr Haig protested strongly when a journalist talked of compensating Israel for acquiescing to the supply of sophisticated arms to Saudi Arabia. "I don't like the tune of the term", he scolded.

Mr Begin, standing beside him, added: "I don't think compensation is possible." He explained: "Israel is in a permanent danger and therefore should be strengthened."

Earlier at a closed meeting with officials, Mr Haig told the Israelis there was a place for them in the strategic alignment being planned for the region to confront "the growing threat of Soviet impeerialism". He acknowledged, according to a participant, that the fact some Arab


Mr Begin and Mr Haig answer reporters' questions.

countries were hostile to Israel created a dilemma. The United States wanted to lose neither those countries nor Israel, he went on.

Israeli officials said later they could live with the American policy but they did not like it. Mr Begin, who was questioned at the press conference about the proposed sale of Awacs (Airborne Warning and Control System) aircraft to Saudi Arabia, replied: "It is a very serious threat to Israel and we said so in candour."

Israelis were pleased with Mr Haig's strong denunciation of the Syrian attacks on Christian enclaves in Lebanon.

Summit meeting: The continuing violence in Lebanon and the threat it poses to the stability of the Middle East emerged clearly today as the central issue dominating Mr Haig's first visit to the region (Christopher Walker writes from Amman).

Soon after he arrived in Amman this afternoon, it was disclosed that an American diplomatic summit to discuss the growing crisis will be held here tomorrow, shortly before the Secretary of State departs for Saudi Arabia on the last leg of his Middle East tour.

An American official told correspondents that Mr John Gunther Dean, the American Ambassador to Lebanon, and Mr Talcott Seelye, the American ambassador to Syria, have been summoned to a meeting with Mr Haig to discuss possible ways of resolving the crisis.

The disclosure was made only hours after Mr Haig made a tough public statement in Israel in which he condemned the Syria's actions against the Lebanese Christians as "brutal and unacceptable".

Leading article, page 13

Mr Trudeau rejects compromise

From John Best
Ottawa, April 6

Canada's constitutional impasse appears to have deepened today after Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, refused to meet provincial premiers and withdrew a proposal aimed at breaking a parliamentary deadlock over his Government's patriation plan.

The eight provincial premiers that are opposed to Mr Trudeau's controversial plan to bring home the constitution from Britain announced at the weekend they had negotiated an alternative arrangement.

They also announced that they intend to meet in Ottawa on April 16 to put the finishing touches to the proposition, and ask the Prime Minister to join them at the conference table.

But Mr Trudeau scoffed at the suggestion, telling reporters he did not take it seriously.

He emphatically restated his position in the Commons today. "We will meet with them (the premiers) after we have our constitution in Canada and not before", he told Mr Joe Clark, the Conservative Opposition leader.

Mr Trudeau's statement suggests his Government has decided to smash the procedural obstructions thrown up by the Conservatives and push the constitution plan through Parliament.

The Prime Minister has frequently justified his decision to seek unilateral patriation of the constitution on the ground that the provincial premiers were incapable of reaching a consensus on how it should be done.

His own plan, now held up in Parliament, envisages asking the British Parliament to attach a bill of rights and an amending formula to the constitution—the British North America Act of 1867—before surrendering control to Canada.

The eight dissenting provinces—out of the 10 in Canada—are proposing an alternative amending formula, and they would leave the bill of rights to be attached after the constitution was based in Canada.

In a weekend interview with *The New York Times* editorial board in New York, Mr Trudeau withdrew an offer he had made to break the stalemate.

He had said his Government would delay final Commons approval of the measure until the Supreme Court of Canada decided on its constitutional validity.

Nato likel[y] to be transform[ed] in 1980s

Oil states' cash curbs threaten schools for Palestinian refugees

From Christopher Walker
Amman, April 6

United Nations schools for 175,000 Palestinian refugee children in Jordan and Syria are threatened with permanent closure at the end of next month because of the refusal of most oil-rich Arab states to meet the $25m (£11m) budget deficit facing the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

For political reasons, most Arab governments have refused to increase their total contribution to UNRWA's budget. Their contribution stands at about 6 per cent, only slightly more than that contributed by Britain alone. In addition, Libya has failed to provide $5m which it pledged in 1979.

"As far as the Arab leaders are concerned, the West is responsible for the Palestinian problem because it created the state of Israel," explained Mr John Tanner, UNRWA's director in Jordan. "Therefore they insist that the West should pay for it."

Because of the present cash crisis, UNRWA submitted unsuccessful requests for Arab aid to the Amman summit last November, to the Islamic summit in Saudi Arabia earlier this year, and to the Palestine Liberation Organization. Earlier, a suggestion that the refugees' education should be subsidized by a small levy on Middle East oil was turned down by the producing nations.

Although UNRWA has been in financial difficulties before, the present deficit is the most serious faced in its 30-year history.

Notices for the 5,000 Palestinian teachers at the schools in Syria and Jordan have already been printed, ready for distribution in three weeks time if there is no sudden inflow of funds.

The impending closure of the schools and other economy measures, including a halving of the flour ration for refugees, has led to increasing tension between UNRWA's small international staff and its Palestinian employees. In Jordan, the 12 foreign employees have been advised to take special security precautions.

The anger felt by the local Palestinians is directed not at the Arab states, but at the main Western governments who have provided a number of reasons for not providing higher contributions to UNRWA's total budget of $231m. These have included the recession, domestic inflation and the prevailing political climate.

Attacking the closure plan, the general committee of the 725,000 refugees in Jordan said in an angry statement: "Britain was the midwife which attended at the birth of the bastard, and it was Britain which facilitated, during its 30 years of mandate in Palestine, the establishment of the state of Israel." In Syria, *Al Baath*, the paper of the ruling party, described the decision to shut the schools as "an imperialist-American scheme".

The refusal of the Arab states to bail UNRWA out has angered many Western governments, who feel that they already contribute enough. This feeling was reinforced when, in response to a recent appeal, America contributed an extra $10m while Saudi Arabia, one of only two Arab governments which responded, offered $5m.

In spite of official warnings delivered to Syria and Jordan about the threatened closure of the schools, both governments have refused to enter into any negotiations with the United Nations about the possibility of taking over the school structure in the refugee camps.

In a recent memorandum, Mr Olof Rydbeck, the Swedish Commissioner-General of UNRWA, gave a warning that the closing of facilities for the 175,000 children could have grave consequences in the middle East. "The implications go beyond the humanitarian", he stated. "They raise very serious questions for the stability of the area."

A man dashes across a street in Beirut dividing a Christian neighbourhood fr om a Muslim district of the Lebanese capital.

Intervention risk increases as Lebanon fighting continues

From Tewfik Mishlawi
Beirut, April 6

The chancese of foreign intervention in the Lebanon increased today as heavy fighting between Syrian troopsa of the Arab Deterrent Force (ADF), and Lebanese right-wing militias in Beirut and the Roman Catholic town of Zahle, 30 miles tot he east, went into its sixth day.

President Elias Sarkis ordered another ceasefire today, the fourth since the fighting started last week. Mr Sarkis is the supreme commander of the ADM and commander-in-chief of the Lebanese armed forces, both of which have been embroiled in the fighting.

The Lebanese leader conferred on the telephone today with his Syrian counterpart, President Assad, who is sending Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, his Foreign Minister, to Beirut tomorrow to attempto stop the fightaing, which has already left 160 peopled ead and more than 500 wounded.

The battles took a turn for the worse in the past 24 hours with reports that long-range artillery shells were falling on areas in the mountains Christian enclave which have hitherto been relatively quiet.

The Lebanese leftist coalition, known as the National Movement, also declared total mobilization "to fight the battle of destiny" against the Christiai right-wing forces. The predominantly Muslim coalition has been an ally of Syria and the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Mr Vassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, has also announced his movement had taken "important measures" to deal with the "Israeli schemes in Lebanon". He did not say what these measures were.

Israeli aircraft flew over Beirut today, inviting a barrage of anti-aircraft fire from Palestinian, Syrian and National Movement positions. The gesture was apparently a warning of a possible Israeli intervention if the Syrians continued the shelling of Christian areas.

Israel, one of the countries most concerned abour events in Lebanon, has already said it would not stand idly by watching "the Syrians murder the Lebanese Christians."

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, who held talks with Israeli leaders in Jerusalem yesterday and today, said before leaving for Jordan, that his country viewed the "brutality of the Syrian action against the Christian enclave as a very, very serious turn of events, which is unacceptable by any measure or appropriate international standards of conduct".

He said that the consequences of a failure to return to a ceasefire were "of course, most, most serious".

This is the strongest condemnation of the Syrian action in Lebanon to come from the United States. Mr Haig also said that this action might have been a "diversion ordered by the Soviets to draw attention away fro mactions the Soviets were contemplating in Poland".

President Giscard d'Estaing of France, who had earlier appealed to President Assad of Syria for restraint and moderation, is sending an emissary on a fact-finding mission to Lebanon to assess the situation.

Co-princes in war of Andorran air waves

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, April 6

A radio war has broken out in the tiny principality of Andorra in the Pyrenees between the Council of the Valleys, the Parliament of the principality, and its two co-princes, the President of France and the Spanish bishop of Seo de Urgel in the province of Lerida.

The battle is over control of the two radio stations in its territory: the French Sud-Radio, controlled by Sofirad, a holding company set up by the French Government, which also controls Radio Monte Carlo and Europe Number One, and the Spanish Radio Andorra, which is under the control of the Spanish state company Eirasa.

On Thursday, the two stations were ordered to stop broadcasting because of the failure of the co-princes to ratify a new protocol of agreement between them and the principality turning over ownership of the stations to the council.

The two stations are important to France and Spain. Sud-Radio covers a large area of south-west France, broadcasts in French, and has about a million and a half listeners. Radio Andorra broadcats mainly in French; but also in Catalan and Spanish. It has about a million listeners.

This Lilliputian international crisis is therefore bigger than it looks. Sud-Radio has the highest transmitter in Europe, on the Pic Blanc, at an altitude of 8,700 ft. Radio Andorra broadcasts from Encamp.

A protocol signed in 1961 between the principality and Sofirad and Eirasa gave them the right to run the two stations for 20 years, but specified that after that they would revert to Andorra.

Recently, the Council of the Valleys warned the two co-princes that the 20-year concession would not be renewed, and paid 10m pesetas (about £52,000) to a notary against the future purchase of the two stations.

A new protocol was accordingly submitted a few days ago to the representatives of the co-princes, the prefect of the Pyreneés Orientales and the bishop's delegate; but the French and Spanish Governments insisted on some modifications of the text which had the effect of acknowledging Andorran control but not ownership.

After four days of discussion therefore, the council decided to order the two stations to suspend broadcasting, and threatened to resign if the new protocol were not adopted.

Radio Andorra complied immediately and ceased to broadcast on Thursday evening. Sud-Radio, however, defied the order and a bailiff was sent up to the Pic Blanc on Friday morning to order it to close down.

In the meantime, Sofirad has lodged an appeal with the two co-princes, in accordance with the ancient procedure of the principality. Its programmes were broadcast normally at the weekend. Radio Andorra, for its part, appealed to the Council of the Valleys; but the appeal has not yet been heard.

There is a serious issue at stake. In the past 20 years Andorra has emerged from the Middle Ages into the consumer society of the end of the twentieth century. It enjoys an unprecedented tourist boom.

Every year 10 million visitors come and buy goods tax free, from what is the largest supermarket in Europe.

The tiny state is also a tax paradise, and is the official residence of 22,000 foreigners. There are only 8,000 native Andorrans. Yet the Government of the state remains archaic, and young Andorran intellectuals, who have studied in Montpelier, Toulouse or Barcelona, are increasingly impatient of it.

They do not challenge the tutelage of the two co-princes, which is the basis of their country's independence and prosperity; but they want control of radio stations, and a statute after the pattern of Luxembourg for broadcasting.

American 'Green Berets' to support Liberian leader

Washington, April 6.—The Reagan Administration has ordered a show of military support for the Government of Master Sergeant Samuel Doe of Liberia in an effort to maintain him in office and to fend off offers of military aid from Libya, according to a State Department official.

The official said that sending 100 soldiers from the Special Forces, better known as the Green Berets, and a missile-firing destroyer was intended to persuade Master Sergeant Doe to take United States interest as genuine.

"You're dealing with a sergeant," the spokesman said. "He'll take us more seriously if there's a military dimension to our aid."

While the United States has detected no one waiting to topple Sergeant Doe from power, the spokesman said the Administration would be confronted with an unknown if he fell. Sergeant Doe came to power in a coup a year ago.

The spokesman said that Libya had made soundings about sending military advisers to Liberia but that the United States had persuaded President Doe not to accept them. Libya has recently sent forces into the central African state of Chad, and the Libyan leader, Colonel Moammar Gaddafi, has indicated his intention to spread his influence further.

A Pentagon official said that the United States had not seen Cuban military advisers in Liberia but noted that Cuba was trying to set up a diplomatic mission there. Cuban, East German and Soviet military advisers have spread across Africa in recent years.

The Special Forces unit is due to arrive in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, next Friday, two days before the anniversary of Sergeant Doe's coup, for 30 days of training beside Liberian troops, a pentagon official said.

The destroyer, the 7,800-ton Thorn, is due to arrive on the anniversary for a visit of several days. Pentagon officals said that Liberians tended to look for unrest on anniversaries.—New York Times News Service.

Pakistan hopes for US military aid brighten

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad, April 6

Pakistan will resume ministerial-level talks with the United States Government later this month to seek a new basis for what it calls a "mutually satisfactory and durable relationship"

Mr Agha Shahi, the Foreign Minister, will visit Washington on April 20 at the invitation of Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State.

The official statement about Mr Shahi's visit to Washington came today amid strong speculation that General Zia ul-Haq's regime has secured a sympathetic response from the Reagan Administration to Pakistan's military and economic requirements. This is partly because of the growing concern for security in the Gulf and the presence of more than 80,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

There have been claims that the United States and Pakistan have struck a secret deal already, but this was vehemently denied by the Pakistan Foreign Ministry a few days ago. However, it did confirm that negotiations for economic aid and military purchases from the United States had been going on for some time.

Pakistan Government leaders have recently been talking of the need to strengthen the country militarily, and today General Zia told garrison troops about 70 miles from here that the Government was determined to provide necessary equipment to the armed forces.

Former senior army officers have been giving lectures on radio and television emphasizing the military superiority of Pakistan's two immediate neighbours, India and Afghanistan, which are both getting direct Soviet military support.

American reports of the imminent White House response to Pakistani requirements has caused an uproar in India. The Indian Foreign Minister is due to have talks in Washington on this issue only a few days before Mr Shahi's arrival.

Pakistan was associated militarily with the United States for about 16 years, but felt cheated by Washington during the fighting with India in 1965 and 1971.

When Pakistan insists on a more satisfactory and durable relationship, it is emphasizing the necessity for firm American guarantees against any recurrence of the old American attitude towards Pakistan, where India is concerned.

It is also implied that the new relationship should not compel Pakistan to lose its newly earned non-aligned status.

A desire for realignment with the West, to secure military protection against Soviet and Indian threats, has been growing not only in official circles but also in right-wing newspapers and among right-wing leaders. The recent drive against left-wingers, including the Pakistan People's Party, seems to have removed all visible signs of opposition to this swing to the West.

Party man dies in Uganda jail

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, April 6

Mr George Bakulumpagi Wamala, publicity secretary of the Uganda Patriotic Movement, has died of injuries in a military prison after being arrested in Kampala last week, his associates said in Kampala today.

He was among a number of members of opposition parties arrested and allegedly tortured after guerrilla attacks in the Kampala area. Mr Yoweri Museveni, president of the Uganda Patriotic Movement is leading the People's Revolutionary Army (PRA), one of the main guerrilla groups.

The PRA today claimed to have ambushed three military vehicles about 30 miles from Kampala, and to have killed 46 Ugandan and Tanzanian soldiers. A spokesman said the troops had been sent to ambush a PRA guerrilla force, but were themselves ambushed instead.

The Government-owned *Ugandan Times* reported today that guerrillas armed with sophisticated weapons were operating in Bugerere county, 40 miles from Kampala. Government forces were trying to track them down.

Eleven killed in week of Yugoslav protests

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade, April 6

Eleven people were killed, among them two security officers, and 57 were injured during demonstrations by Albanian nationalists in the south-eastern Yugoslav province of Kosovo. The protests began last week and continued for several days despite an official state of emergency.

The authorities have been taken by surprise by the violence. The effective organization behind the protests has been frankly admitted by Mr Stane Dolanc, a senior Yugoslav leader, who is a member of the Communist Party Praesidium.

During a press conference here today, he left no doubt that it wouldtake a long time for confidence to return to the region, which had obviously been seriously shaken by the Albanian protests.

But he confirms that once the present emergency measures had been lifted and calm was fully restored, Yugoslavia would continue to seek political means for resolving the crisis.

Nevertheless the demand for an independent Kosovo republic, which was raised by the demonstrators—who Mr Dolanc insisted could be counted at no more than a few hundred—would not be granted as this would mean not only a violation of Yugoslavia's federal constitutional order, but in the long run, the beginning of the country's disintegration.

"We have decided to ease the present emergency measures and normalize life in the region through political means and activity," Mr Dolanc said. Yugoslavia would not be shy of using all the means at its disposal to deal with anyone who, in whatever way, might threaten the nation's integrity, independence and non-alignment.

The suggestion, which has been made by several other leading Yugoslavs, about the link-up between the organizers of the demonstrations in Kosovo and emigrés recruited both from pro-Soviet opponents and extremists on the other side was emphasized once more by Mr Dolanc.

Although of different ideological views, they were united he implied, by a joint interest to weaken and destabilize Yugoslavia

Altogether 33 demonstrators have been arrested, and many more were detained for questioning and later released.

0 drown when Brazilian drought ends

From Our Correspondent
Sao Paulo, April 6

Ten days of non-stop rain have ended the two-year drought over much of Brazil's north east, drowning at least 30 people, and making 50,000 homeless.

In Recife at the weekend, President Figueiredo announced a $1,200m (£545m) programme for the region this year

One proposal is that the waters of the 1,866-mile long San Francisco River, one of Brazil's largest, should be channelized over its watershed, and into the basins of rivers in the north which now dry up.

Assam official dies in bomb explosion

Delhi, April 6.—A senior civil servant was killed today when a bomb exploded in his office in India's troubled north eastern state of Assam.

Mr E. S. Parthasarthi, administrative head of Upper Assam, was in his office in Jorhat Town, the Press Trust of India reported.

More than 290 people have been killed during a 19-month-old campaign in Assam against illegal immigration, mostly from Bangladesh. Another bomb explosion last night damaged an oil pipeline about 90 miles from the Assam capital of Gauhati.—Reuter.

Former teacher hanged

From Our Correspondent
Islamabad, April 6

A 26-year-old former school teacher was hanged today by Tara Masih, the executioner who hanged Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the former Pakistan Prime Minister, two years ago.

Illias Ghiasa, who was sentenced to death by special military court 18 months ago for several bank robberies and murders, was hanged in Kot Lakhpat jail on the outskirts of Lahore early this morning.

He had presented several petitions to the High Court against his sentence but the new constitution debars superior courts from interfering with military courts' proceedings and orders. His petitions for a reprieve had also been rejected by President Zia ul-Haq.

Two other young men, described as Mr Ghiasa's accomplices, will be hanged on Thursday. Mr Ghiasa's hanging was watched by four Lahore reporters.

1,000 Thai Muslims flee to Malaysia

From M. G. G. Pillai
Kuala Lumpur, April 6

About 1,000 Muslim refugees, believed to be the victims of a confrontation between Thai pimps and Muslim purists, have trickled into the northern Malaysian states of Perak and Kedah from across the southern Thailand border.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees has begun registering them, but the move poses no strain on official resources here since most of the refugees are staying with relatives.

Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamad, the Deputy Prime Minister, said the refugees would not be turned back until Malaysia was convinced that their safety was assured. However, he emphasized that this "humanitarian gesture" did not mean that Malaysia had changed its policy

Malaysia would continue to treat the refugees as illegal immigrants and to employ the full force of the law to prevent them settling, the Deputy Prime Minister said.

There has always been free movement of people along the border, but the present flow into Malaysia is unusual. The refugees say they have been harassed by communist terrorists and by men "in Thai Army uniform".

One cause for the fear among the Thai refugees is that they may consider themselves targets for retaliation against the increased activity by Muslim separatist groups in southern Thailand.

These separatist groups had until recently confined their activities to the eastern states of southern Thailand, but now they are also operating in the western states.

Travellers say that the south-western Thai towns of Haadyai and Songkhla, which used to attract large numbers of tourists from Malaysi and Singapore, have losta considerable business because of the terrorist activities.

The Muslim groups have warned the operators of massage parlours and hotels that they will be considered targets if they continue to provide sexual services for their clients. The threats have been reinforced by sporadic bomb attacks.

Malaysian officials believe that the pimps and gangsters, who are losing a lucrative income because of the separatists, may have retaliated, causing the present Muslim migration into Malaysia.

Blacks given fresh hope with 12½ acres of low-quality land, a pack of seeds, a few tools and some fertiliser

Tribal land pressures force Zimbabwe to step up resettlement pace

Nicholas Ashford, The Times Southern Africa correspondent, looks at Zimbabwe's agricultural revolution in the second of six articles about the country a year after independence.

Gutu, Zimbabwe

Life changed dramatically for Mr Stephen Madau last September. Until then he, his wife and five children had eked out an impoverished existence in the Gutu tribal trust land in central Zimbabwe—one of the most densely populated areas of the country and one which was most severely ravaged by the war.

Then in the middle of last year he was selected from more than 3,000 applicants to move on to former white farmland which had been purchased by the Government as part of its resettlement programme.

He built himself a house, planted some maize and vegetable seeds which were provided by the authorities and began preparing a larger area of land on which he hopes to plant more crops when the next planting season comes round.

Mr Madau is still desperately poor, but for the first time in his life he has hope. No longer need he be faced with a future of assured poverty and hunger. "I will now be able to support my family which I was not able to do on the small piece of land I had in the tribal trust land", he said.

Mr Madau is one of 528 peasant farmers to have been resettled on former white farmland around Gutu, about 180 miles south of Salisbury. Altogether some 4,000 men, women and children have been moved on to 33 farms totalling about 80,000 acres.

The project is the first (and largest) of six schemes which have so far been initiated around the country as part of the Government's programme for relieving the pressure on land in tribal areas by resettling peasant farmers on unused or under-utilized white farms.

It is being run by Mr Watson Chidawanyika, an official from the Ministry of Lands, who until a few months ago was a student at the University of Kent.

The settling of families began around Gutu late last year and, due to some initial mix-ups, was only completed at the beginning of this year, which meant it was too late for some of them to plant crops.

Each family was given half an acre on which to build a house and a plot of 12 acres where they will be able to grow maize, groundnuts or cotton—either for their own use or for sale.

Each family was also provided with a seed pack, a few implements and some fertilizers so that they should be able to feed themselves by the time the Government's emergency feeding programme ends this month. "Although most people planted late I think they should have just enough food to see them through this year", Mr Chidawanyika said.

The land is not of a very good quality, which explains why most of the white farmers were only too happy to sell to the Government. Most of it will be used for communal grazing. "What we need now is loans so we can buy more cattle". Mr Madau said.

Mr Madau has been appointed vice-chairman of a committee which has been set up to allow the "settlers", as they are called, to discuss problems of common interest such as the location of schools and a planned rural service centre and to liaise with Mr. Chidawanyika. Mr Chidawanyika regards this committee as providing a basis for a collective approach to peasant farming on the Gutu scheme.

The question of land settlement is probably the most important issue facing Mr Robert Mugabe's Government and was one of the main themes of last month's aid donors' conference which raised over £630m towards development projects in Zimbabwe.

Mr Mugabe told the conference that the existence of impoverished, overpopulated tribal areas was the "ugly side of our so-called dual economy . . . a sort of colony within a colony".

Well over four million Zimbabweans live in the tribal areas which comprise just over 40 per cent of the land area, or about 35 million acres. In many areas the soil is poor, rainfall irregular and the land has been eroded because of overgrazing.

The land question was at the heart of the guerrilla war which preceded Zimbabwe's independence and Mr Mugabe is aware that his Government's success or failure will ultimately depend on the way it handles the land question.

The man responsible for land resettlement is Dr Sydney Sekeramayi, Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development. He is a young doctor who spent a number of years in Sweden before returning to Zimbabwe last year.

Since he took office about 1,500 families have been resettled on just under 300,000 acres of former white land. This may not sound very impressive but, as Dr Sekeramayi pointed out, "we were really starting from scratch. No-one had any first-hand knowledge about how to proceed with land redistribution."

The settlement programme will be speeded up this year. A total of over four and a half million acres of former white land is now on offer to the Government on which it is hoped some 20,000 families can be settled.

One of the main constraints has been money. In order not to undermine the viability of the commercial farming sector the Government has been acquiring land on a "willing seller, willing buyer" basis. At an average of about £10 an acre a lot of money is needed, although this should now be forthcoming in view of the success of the donors' conference.

Another constraint has been lack of equipment. The Department of Lands has only a handful of tractors, lorries and bulldozers at its disposal. "We really can't get on very fast until we have more equipment", a senior government official commented. Some vehicles have been promised by aid donors but they have yet to arrive.

Dr Sekeramayi is determined to continue acquiring land through purchase rather than requisition. But what will happen when there are no more willing sellers? "This is not an immediate problem", he said, "but we are considering such possibilities as a ceiling on the amount of land people can own or possibly a land tax. But all options are conditional on the terms of the constitution agreed at Lancaster House."

The minister's pragmatic approach extends to the question of cooperatives and collective farms, a concept which spreads fear within the commercial farming sector.

He said it was not the Government's intention to compel anyone to join cooperatives or collectives but he hoped, for instance, that peasant farmers might come to realize that such systems would help them when it came to seeking credit, marketing their produce or buying in bulk. "But we are not going to force this on people", he added.

Next: the white farmers.

Negative side to political system, Mr Mugabe says

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, April 6

The constitution drafted for Zimbabwe at the Lancaster House talks had unduly limited and qualified the powers of Parliament, Mr Robert Mugabe said in the House of Assembly today.

Addressing the opening of a seminar here organized by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the Prime Minister said the restriction applied particularly to Parliament's power to amend the constitution. It fettered "the right of the people to make such amendments as the majority might consider desirable".

The constitution was agreed by all parties at the talks after weeks of negotiation.

Mr Mugabe told MPs and delegates from Britain, India and Tanzania that, where a unanimous vote was required for change, an individual could hold the nation to ransom. But he added that, though the limitations might "frustrate the realization of the popular will", the Government was committed to uphold the constitution.

Mr Mugabe was also critical of the parliamentary "politics of negativism". The arguments in favour of the cut-and-thrust of partisan debate did not outweigh the responsibility to unite Zimbabweans "and instil in them a single loyalty and a common national identity".

Negativism had no place in a young country. While people were without adequate incomes and opportunities, it could not be Parliament's role to place trivia on a pedestal. "This is my indictment of the multi-party political order and its sponsorship of negative forces", Mr Mugabe said.

The Prime Minister referred obliquely to the way in which MPs should deal with the "crisis of expectations" among Zimbabwe's majority.

He said people found it hard to accept that the prices of basic commodities had to go up "in the era of the people's power". Similarly, some had not understood why the Government had called for reconciliation among groups that had been in conflict.

Bus crash kills 21

Jakarta, April 6.—Twenty-one people were killed and 32 injured when an inter-city passenger bus crashed in Cianjur, 75 miles south east of here.

Bogotá goes dry

Bogotá, April 6.—A breakdown at a water purification plant left Bogotá, a city of five million people, without drinking water all day yesterday.

PARLIAMENT, April 6, 1981

Nation getting better value from BSC under new chairman

House of Commons

Britain was getting better value out of the money going into the British Steel Corporation since the appointment of Mr Ian MacGregor as chairman, Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State for Industry, said during a question on subsidies to the corporation.

Mr Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford, C) stated: Over the 10 years to the end of March 1981, the Government has provided or guaranteed finance to the BSC amounting to about £5,700m to finance its capital investment programme, working capital requirements, redundancy costs and revenue deficits. The latest estimate for 1981-82 is about £750m.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet, Chipping Barnet, C): On average over the last 10 years, every man, woman and child in this country has subsidized British Steel to the tune of about £90. That is a considerable amount of money.

We have the right to see that this money is used for sound capital investment. Will he undertake continually to survey this?

Mr Tebbit: Yes, I am painfully aware of the expense involved. Following the appointment of Mr Ian MacGregor and the improved practices which he has instituted, we have got far better monitoring practices in the department.

Although it is not possible to say that money can only be used for capital investment, certainly we are fully of the opinion that we are getting better value out of the money that goes into the steel corporation now than before.

He may have seen the article in the *Financial Times* today concerning remarkable increases in productivity being achieved in parts of BSC.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Scunthorpe, C): The amount of public funding given by this administration far exceeds any public assistance given by the previous administration. When will the corporation be moving into profit?

Mr Tebbit: We are investing large sums in the corporation. Previous investment was wasted due to political interference and a reluctance to tackle more efficient management and working practices.

I cannot predict when BSC will come into profit because that depends not least upon when the European market in steel is restored to a level where the most efficient manufacturers of steel are able to cover their costs.

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport, Lab): Is the Government taking into consideration the lessons learnt the hard way by previous Governments? We closed down many coal mines and thought we could bank on cheap oil from the Middle East. Now the same thing could happen with steel. We could rely on overseas supplies, close our own works down and when the upturn comes we will not be guaranteed supply.

Mr Tebbit: He has to be optimistic to believe that 14m tonnes of steel capacity from British Steel will leave us short in the near future and there is considerable capacity to increase steel making if necessary.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C): What advice would he give to people in the private sector needing now to consider whether to invest in order to renew their plant?

Mr Tebbit: The private sector's future, like that of the public sector, depends more critically upon the level of prices in Europe as a whole than upon anything else.

Therefore, they must look with the same degree of anxiety as I do to the meetings between European steel manufacturers to see whether an improvement in prices may be achieved by some reductions in excess capacity.

Equally, they must look to the meetings of the Council of Ministers which I have been attending and another one of which I will attend tomorrow (Tuesday) which have ambitions of removing public subsidy to the steel industry in the reasonably foreseeable future.

Mr John Cunningham, an Opposition spokesman on industry, (Whitehaven, Lab): Mr MacGregor, before a select committee, pointed out that no one of any consequence was making profit in the steel industry world-wide at present.

It comes ill from the Government benches for people to criticize investment in our manufacturing industry particularly when the Government is committed to the modernization and greater efficiency of British industry.

Even in the present world climate, the Japanese have announced further large tranches of investment in their steel industry. How can we hope to compete without this level of investment in a basic and strategic industry?

Mr Tebbit: I am inclined to agree with him. We need investment to make the steel industry profitable and effective. That is what we are giving it.

My colleagues are not criticizing investment in the steel industry. They are criticizing the situation where production of steel is subsidized in the public sector but the private sector, which faces similar problems, is left without such a deep purse of taxpayers aid and is in a difficult position.

Why Sir Peter Hayman was not named

There was widespread disquiet over the case of Sir Peter Hayman, Mr Jeffrey Thomas QC, an Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, said during questions. There appeared to be a clear violation of the doctrine of equality before the law.

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, replied there was no question of Sir Peter Hayman or any of the other nine concerned in the Paedophile Information Exchange ring being given special treatment.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab) had asked the Attorney General to introduce legislation to define the circumstances in which anonymity might be granted to witnesses or potential witnesses before the courts.

Sir Michael Havers (Merton, Wimbledon, C): No. The general rule is witnesses must be identified, but statutory provision already exists to protect the identity of witnesses in rape cases and cases concerning children and young persons.

A court has discretion which is rarely exercised to allow witnesses to give their evidence without their names being made public.

In other exceptional cases, for example blackmail cases, this discretion provides flexibility and sufficient safeguards in the interests of justice. It will be made statutory by the Contempt Bill now before the House.

Mr Price: If the Bill goes through. Without going into the merits of the Hayman case and MI5, and whether MI5 are capable of finding spies or anything like that, the one issue out of that case, which has not been cleared up, is why one particular witness in that case was allowed, when he was on all fours in every respect with every other witness, not to have his proper name disclosed to the court.

Is there some sort of rule which ensures that senior civil servants are given preference in this matter?

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab): He wore the right school tie.

Sir Michael Havers: There is no such rule, and Mr Price does not have his facts right.

The crux of the case against O'Carroll and others, all of whom were members of the executive committee of the Paedophile Information Exchange (PIE), was that they were encouraging criminal offences by publishing contact advertisements.

Sir Peter Hayman was never a member of the executive committee, and was therefore not made a defendant in that trial.

To obtain the necessary evidence of the purposes of the contact advertisements, Treasury counsel advised that witness statements should be taken from a number of persons who had advertised. Of those who as a result of this advice made witness statements, three—two of whom subsequently gave evidence at the committal proceedings—had been amongst the eight persons who were named as possible defendants along with Sir Peter in the first report referred to in my answer to Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Huddersfield West, C) on March 19.

Treasury counsel had not included the name of Sir Peter Hayman as a potential witness because there was no evidence to suggest he had ever been an advertiser or attempted to obtain access to children so as to commit offences against them through his membership of PIE or otherwise.

At the committal proceedings, Sir Peter Hayman was referred to by a number of witnesses under the name of Henderson because that was the only name by which they knew him.

No mention was made of him at the trial of O'Carroll under his true or assumed name although counsel for the defence were aware of his true name and could have adduced this in evidence if they had considered it to be relevant.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, C): Since sending obscene material through the post even without financial gain is a statutory offence, the Attorney General and the DPP are coming perilously close to following the precedent set by King James II who used prerogative action to dispense with laws with which he disagreed rather than asking Parliament to change them.

Sir Michael Havers: If he is saying that every time there is evidence of a criminal offence that person should be prosecuted, Mr Maxwell-Hyslop ought to look at records over the past few years.

In this particular case, there were two others who were charged in respect of much more horrifying material and the court in its wisdom granted each a conditional discharge.

Mr Jeffrey Thomas, (Abertillery, Lab): The case in point does not lie easily within the parameters indicated a moment or two ago.

A matter of general public concern is that there appears to be a clear violation of the doctrine of equality before the law. Have others been shielded in this way? If so who, and in what circumstances?

Sir Michael Havers: I regret that the detailed answer I have given does not appear to have been absorbed. There is no question Sir Peter Hayman or any of the other nine concerned in the ring being given special treatment.

When it was necessary to consider whether these contact advertisements were having any effect some of those who had advertized were called as witnesses. Sir Peter Hayman had not been an advertizer or used the contact side of the magazine.

No rush for PAYE if repayment of VAT slower

The Inland Revenue will not take precipitate action to collect income tax from firms in difficulty because they have not received repayments of value-added tax, Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State, Treasury, said in a written reply.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield, North, C) had asked what was the position regarding repayments of value-added tax to the trading community in view of the strike of computer (data processing) staff at the Customs and Excise computer centre in Southend.

Mr Rees: I regret that, because of this strike, it has not been possible to continue making repayments of value-added tax. The size of the operation, about 10,000 repayment claims a day received in random order, rules out any question of making the repayments manually even on a selective basis.

Nor is there any valid means of distinguishing between claims in order, for example, to deal separately with claims from a particular class of trader or those where hardship exists.

Once the industrial action is over, Customs and Excise will do all they can to see that repayments are resumed as quickly as possible.

However, although VAT is distinct from income tax and national insurance contributions collected under pay-as-you-earn arrangements, Collectors of Taxes will have regard to difficulties facing businesses because repayments of VAT are being delayed.

They will not take precipitate action to collect pay-as-you-earn payments falling due where there is a genuine temporary difficulty about paying in cases of this kind.

Furthermore, in order to ease the cash flow problems of retail chemists, arrangements are being made where necessary for an enhanced payment on account of amounts due to be paid to them in respect of national health service dispensing.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg, Scunthorpe, C) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he would employ, on a temporary basis, qualified computer operators who were not members of the Civil Service unions to keep computerized tax collection centres working normally during the current Civil Service pay dispute.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, said in a written reply: Specialist computer operators form only a small proportion of the total staff required to keep the computerized tax collection centres operational. The present alternative arrangements have so far resulted in payment to the Exchequer of a substantial proportion of the revenue falling due. The present position would not necessarily be improved by attempts to employ clerical specialist staff with no direct relevant experience on the scale which would be required.

Drive to buy British in public sector

Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry, said at question time that he is to see ministers in the main Government purchasing departments about the importance of "buying British".

Mr Gwilym Roberts (Cannock, Lab) had asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would take further steps to encourage British industry to "buy British" when purchasing manufactured components, capital equipment and raw materials whenever possible.

Mr Baker (City of Westminster, St Marylebone, C): The Government hopes that both the public and private sectors will seek to improve the competitiveness of their UK suppliers.

But purchasers should not "buy British" regardless. Suppliers must produce what is required at the right time at the right price to a satisfactory standard.

Mr Roberts: Our public sector purchasing policy is in a shambles compared with most of our industrial competitors. In view of the evidence I supplied recently about the way British Leyland knocked Lucas about in terms of headlamps purchases, would he look at BL's purchasing policy?

Mr Baker: I am aware of the correspondence he has had with the department. I have been told that BL buys 95 per cent of its components from British firms, a high percentage for any company.

I completely refute his allegation that public purchasing by public corporations is a shambles. We have initiated a new drive where Government departments and nationalized industries are concerned to try to get suppliers and customers to work more closely together.

That is the most effective way of improving Government purchasing policy.

Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C): Both in the private and public sectors there is no point in buying British unless it is of a reasonable and proper quality.

What should be encouraged is for all buyers in all industries to "TBBB"—"Think British before buying." That is the best approach to getting best value.

Mr Baker: He is right. There was an announcement last week by the Debenham's group which is following that policy. That is the best way to get the results we all want.

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab): Would he appeal to MPs and everyone in the Palace of Westminster to buy British instead of foreign cars? The joint leader of the so-called Social Democratic Party, not in the House, claims to be a great Common Market supporter yet he buys a Volvo, the only car in Europe not made in the Common Market. (Laughter).

Mr Baker: Each MP must decide for himself what he buys. My wife has bought a Metro—(Cheers)—so we have put the rather slender resources of the Baker family where the Government's mouth is. (Renewed laughter).

Charity Commission attacked for failure to investigate Moonies

The Charity Commission had been wrong in saying, in a statement after the conclusion of the recent libel case in the High Court, that it did not have power to investigate or remove the Unification Church from the list of charities, Mr David Mellor (Wandsworth, Putney, C) said. He was speaking in the debate on the motion for the House to rise for the Easter recess on Thursday of next week until April 27 and that it should not sit on May 4 (May Day.)

Mr Mellor said the House should discuss the continuing charities status of the "Moonies" Church or Unification Church.

Last Tuesday, at the end of six months of careful consideration in the High Court before a highly experienced judge, the jury had taken in that context, the derisory amount of five hours to find for the *Daily Mail* in the libel case.

He was satisfied that any common sense person would have had the opportunity to consider the evidence against the sect published by the *Daily Mail* and by *The Times* which also had an action for libel against it, which he trusted would not now proceed.

The Charity Commission, was wrong in saying that it did not have powers in law either fully to investigate the activities of the sect, and, thereafter, if things that were said in the trial were ture, to remove them from the register of charities, or peremptorily, without recourse to investigation, remove them.

In refusing to do so, the commissioners were acting in ignorance of their powers and in such a way as to call into question the effectiveness of that body as guardians of the status of charity, which should not be abused. It was a scandal if it was being abused in the way he submitted it was.

If it was true that the 1960 Act did not give the commissioners power properly to investigate those matters, the House should take an early opportunity fully to investigate the law to ensure that they could draft a more cogent statute to enable them to take action.

If the statement by the Charity Commissioners had been an accurage statement of the law, the law would be an ass, but it was not the law, and he had arranged a meeting with the chief commissioner tomorrow in an attempt to persuade him that his view of the law was wrong.

While it was fair to say that the chief commissioner had accepted with proper speed his request for a meeting, he was not encouraged about the commissioner's attitude, as a result of interviews relayed on the radio today. He appeared to be saying that those who criticized him did not understand the law.

By one or two off-the-cuff remarks, he appeared to be labelling this as tnother instance of publicity-crazed MPs and newspapers getting together to attack the commission. He had not used the phrase "publicity-crazed" but the implication was clear.

He was encouraged to believe his view was right because he had been telephoned by a senior member of the Chancery Bar who had been at pains to point out his distress at the inaccuracy of what the chief commissioner had had to say about his powers.

He had said that his (Mr Mellor's) view of the commissioners' power was right, and in an interesting leading article today, so had *The Times*.

Considerable surprise at the manner in which the charity commissioners had conducted themselves had been expressed by Mr Hugh Francis QC, who had carried out the last investigation which the commissioners had ordered, into the Exclusive Brethren. Mr Francis had said he had thought the matter worthy of investigation.

The commissioners had issued their statement after 72 hours. What had they done in those 72 hours? Had they reviewed all the trial evidence? How much investigating did they carry out?

One commissioner had yesterday said that their talks had been "short but not hurried". Reading between the lines, that suggested to him that the most peremptory consideration had been given. Nothing which, in a decent use of the English language, could be called an investigation had been carried out, and that was a dereliction of duty by the commission.

The commission had said that the object of the organization was charitable in law. There was nothing in the Act which restricted the commissioners in their view to the aims and objects set out. He could not think that they were right in saying that it was merely the aims and objects which mattered.

He was glad to note that the brain-washing aspect of the matter was to be taken up by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Tthe Times had taken issue with the commissioners' interpretation that the matter was one for the High Court or for legislation. So did he. Section 4 (3) of the 1960 Act said "Any institution which no longer appears to the Commissioners to be a charity shall be removed from the register."

The remainder of the section in no way modified the basic power of the commission to remove any institution which no longer appeared to be a charity. That was the basis for what he, Mr Hugh Francis and *The Times* said.

Having seen the verdict of the jury and how carefully the court had considered the matter, the commission should have removed both organizations, the Unification Church and the Sun Myung Moon Foundation, and told them that if they dissented they should go to the Chancery Division and prove the commission wrong.

One would hope that the organizasions were good enough to recognize that another visit to British courts would not be in their or anyone's interests.

The 1960 Act gave wide powers to investigate charities, a particular charity or class of charity. There could be no wider power.

The saddest thing about the lamentable way in which the commissioners had conducted themselves was that they were convicted out of their own mouths. What they had done in this matter had only to be contrasted with what they did a few years ago when the question of the charitable status of the Exclusive Brethren came up.

They were failing in their public duty and should do more. They should either peremptorily remove this organization from the list as of now or announce an inquiry with a reputable QC to conduct it. He would need to do no more than consider the evidence given at the trial.

It was to be hoped that even at this eleventh hour the commissioners would have the good sense and wisdom to change their minds. They would have the support of anyone who was concerned that charities should be an important part of the nation's life and should not be abused, degraded and brought into disrepute by the activities of such bodies.

Mr David Stoddart (Swindon, Lab) said there was an individual in his constituency who needed redress. He had been arrested and placed under constraint for 19 hours for a peccadillo.

This constituent, Mr Malcolm Hancock, had the temerity to turn right at a "no right)" sign and was fined £20. He thought the penalty inordinately high and decided to protest by writing the cheque on a piece of toilet paper.

It was perfectly legible and legally drawn, but the clerk of Swindon Magistrates' Court, who seemed to be a mountebank of the first order, decided that he would not accept it. Summoned to appear for non-payment of the fine Mr Hancock, who had been advised by a solicitor and a bank manager that his cheque was in order, decided that he had paid and that was the end of the matter.

Not long afterwards a couple of policemen arrived at his house, arrested him, took him to the cells and kep thim there for 19 hours. Justice should not only be tempered by mercy but administered with wisdom. It was clear that the clerk of that court had no wisdom. If he had had any sense he would have accepted the cheque, paid it into the bank and drawn the money on behalf of the Queen.

I hope (he said) that by bringing this matter to the attention of the House we shall get some more circumspect action by the clerk of the Swindon Magistrates' Court and that it will be made clear to him that Parliament does not approve of his oppressive attitude.

Mr John Silkin, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons Affairs (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab) said the Moonies had been an interesting point to raise and he was sure Mr Pym would give some indication about them. It was only fair to say that charitable trusts, and trying to define what was a religion for the purposes of charities, had plagued them and their ancestors since the first Elizabeth when the original definition of charity was first made.

Mr Francis Pym, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Cambridgeshire, C) said that Mr Mellor had expressed views about the charitable status and activities of the Moonies which had drawn a lot of support from various parts of the House.

This particular case (he went on), and all the circumstances and details surrounding it, most certainly will receive a great deal of attention inside this House and outside, and by lawyers and all kinds of bodies. There is no doubt that what has been revealed by that case has caused a great deal of anxiety.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Mr Humphrey Atkins) hoped to make a detailed announcement about the supply of electricity in Northern Ireland before the end of this month.

The motion was agreed to.

Britain at or near the bottom of recession

There seemed to be strong evidence that the country was in the bottoming out phase of the recession or approaching it very closely, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said during questions

Sir Keith Joseph (Leeds, North-East, C) was answering Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline, Lab) who had asked him, when he met the CBI, to discuss with them "this great phenomena" of the disagreement on if and when the recession was bottoming.

Mr Stanley Orme chief Opposition spokesman on industry (Salford, West, Lab): Before he meets the CBI will Sir Keith Joseph publish a considered reply to their document *The Will to Win* which contradicts basic Government policy?

We are entitled to know where the Government disagrees with the CBI and, for that matter, with the TUC.

Sir Keith Joseph: Is there really the disagreement he mentions? We await with keen interest the CBI's identification of the savings in public spending which they believe the Government should be making.

Their purpose is the same as the Government's—to enable the fall in interest rate and inflation to occur because these are the prime conditions for industrial prosperity.

ICL a key company with good prospects

International Computers Ltd was responding to its difficulties positively and with determination, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry, said when he moved the approval of the Financial Assistance to Industry (International Computers Limited) resolution.

Mr Baker (City of Westminster, St Marylebone, C) said the downturn in the company's fortunes had been caused primarily by the impact of the worldwide recession which was hitting the high technology and computer industry particularly hard.

ICL was geared to growth and a high level of expenditure and research and development. A severe and prolonged flattening out of sales which hit profitability gave rise to the company's problems.

This resolution was being made under Section 8 of the Industry Act, 1972. It provided a Government guarantee of loan facilities advanced by banks to ICL. The proposed loan guarantee was limited to an amount up to £200m for a period up to two years.

The Government had a speical interest in ICL as a major customer for its products. It had equipment valued at more than £300m, supporting vital operations in some 20 departmtnts including defence, revenue assessment, energy, agriculture, and health and social security.

The comapny had taken vigorous action to contain costs including 10 per cent redundancies already announced across its United Kingdom workforce and a proposal for a zero pay increase this year.

There had been a recent statement of confidence by the ICL computer users association.

This measure was a constructive, but limited measure of government support for an important component of a key industry with excellent long-term prospects.

Mr John Garrett, an Opposition spokesman on industry (Norwich, South, Lab) said that now that the Government had come to the rescue of ICL it had to participate in its future. This led to a number of important questions which the Government must answer.

There had been severe criticism of ICL management and its product strategy. The board was far too optimistic about growth in demand for its products. It needed more outside directors of a high calibre. How did the Government view these matters and did it propose to do anything about them?

The rescue of ICL, which the Opposition welcomed, made it imperative that the Government swallowed its ideology once again and produced a policy and plan for the future of this company in a crucial area of industrial development.

Mr Tom Arnold (Hazel Grove, C) said the Government's policy had given the company a breathing space, but it was no more than that. There seemed to be a certain confusion in the minds of management as to whether ICL was in the business of competing with the big boys or intended to concentrate upon specialist areas of the technological scene where it felt it could make a real contribution. A choice was involved here which could not be ducked.

Mr Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe, Lab) said the company was created and developed with taxpayers' money. The Government could not wait to sell off the shares to anyone prepared to take them, irrespective of the national interest.

It had had to admit that the people who took over control, benefiting from taxpayers' past efforts, were unable to cope unless their operation was underwritten by taxpayers' money once again.

Mr Baker, replying to the debate, said it was not usual practica to reveal details of applications for research and development assistance.

But we are considering (he said) a range of proposals from ICL which could lead to our doubling the current level of our support for the company's product development activities in the coming year.

The most important thing being done just now was the strategic review of the compnay's examing where ICL should be going in future.

The Government saw no advantage in taking up a new shareholding or involving the NEB again.

The order was agreed to.

The Insurance Companies Bill passed the remaining stages.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Debate on Opposition motion on youth unemployment. Opposed private Bill: Greater Manchester Bill.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Companies (No 2) Bill, report (second day).

Quick hearings on shorthold

Mr Tristan Garel-Jones (Watford, C) asked the Secretary of State for the Environment, what steps he is taking to help landlords, who let on shorthold, to obtain a quick court hearing when they seek repossession of their property.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, said, in a written reply: The Lord Chancellor has made a new set of rules for county court proceedings under the Rent Act, 1977, which will enable landlords who let on shorthold, and other landlords with a mandatory right to possession under the Act, to invoke a special procedure and to obtain an early hearing.

The rules are The Rent Act (County Court Proceedings) Rules 1981 and are contained in Statutory Instrument 1981 No 139 which was made on February 4 and comes into operation today.

Not only Labour peers are poor

House of Lords

Some Labour peers would be embarrassed if the pathetic modesty of their means was given to potential creditors and the public, Lord Ardwick (Lab) said during questions.

Lord Brockway (Lab) had asked if the Leader of the House would take steps to establish a register, as had been done in the Commons, requiring members of the House of Lords to record their financial interests.

Earl Ferrers, deputising for Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council, said: This is a matter for the House.

Hitherto this House has been content to rely on the requirement that if a peer decides that it is proper for him to take part in a debate on a subject in which he has a direct pecuniary interest he should declare it.

This derives from the long-standing custom of the House that peers speak always on their personal honour.

Lord Brockway: Because we are a legislative assembly, sharing that with the Commons, is it not desirable that we should be accountable to the public of whom we are the servants?

Is it not desirable and in favour of open government that we not merely declare our interests when we speak but the public should be able to judge it when we vote?

Earl Ferrers: *It is essentially a matter for the House. The procedure committee considered this possibility in 1974 and they set up a subcommittee. The subcommittee suggested, and the procedure committee agreed, that any such suggestions should be only approved as a result of the procedure committee agreeing and the whole House agreeing. Neither of these things came about.*

Lord Derwent (C): Does he think Lord Brockway would like me to declare my overdraft? (Laughter).

Earl Ferrers: It would be a fascinating revelation but I doubt if this is the purpose of the question.

Lord Ardwick (Lab): Some of us on this side of the House would be embarrassed if the pathetic modesty of our means was given to the public and our potential creditors.

Earl Ferrers: That peculiarity may not reflect only upon Labour peers.

Earl of Lauderdale (C): If open government is the purpose of this question there may be some case for investigating interests that are other than financial which prompt questions in this House.

Earl Ferrers: That is perfectly true and no doubt would be covered by any such investigation.

Proposal on company names to be modified

House of Lords

A proposal to forbid only the registrasion of company names which were exactly the same as names already registered was considered to be a licence to cheat and to blackmail, Lord Mischon (Lab) said during the report stage of the Companies (No 2) Bill.

He said that up to now it had not been possible for the name of a company to be registered if it was similar to the name of another company. The Bill sought to remove from the company's registrar the ability to exclude a name which was similar. The sole basis for exclusion was that the name was the same.

He moved an amendment which proposed that names could be excluded if they were the same as a name appearing on the registrar's index or similar to such a name so that it was likely to cause confusion.

In the view of a great many bodies and organizations, the Government's proposal in the Bill was a licence to cheat and blackmail because the ability for people to register similar names was an invitation to both.

Organizations who were supporting his amendment included chambers of commerce, the Institute of Directors, the Law Society, the Law Reform Committee of the Senate and the Inns of Court and the Bar, the Consumers' Associations, the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies and the Finance Houses Association.

If the Government proposal was passed it would open the doors to people who might want to try to take advantage of a name, which had earned respect in the locality or in connexion with a trade, and see if they could get in on the ticket of the name and do it deliberately. There were those who might do it by mistake.

He was seeking to protect people who were entitled in commercial and industrial life to have the benefit unscathed of their good commerical tradition and name that they bore, and to see that nobody was misled.

The Bishop of London said he supported the amendment on behalf of charities who had been advised that they were in grave danger should it be possible for some company to register in a name which was very close to their own and which might deflate gifts to a particular charity which otherwise a donor would wish to benefit.

Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for Trade said that for some years the discretion vested in the Secretary of State to refuse to allow similar or identical names for new companies, or companies seeking to change name, had been exercised with the greatest difficulty.

In the last two years it had been possible to give only a most cursory inspection to proposed names and inevitably some names were not being allowed which in former times would not have been permitted.

The difficulties were not of the registrar's making. They stemmed from the large number of applications and existing companies to which he had to give attention. The ingenuity of those who sought to devise new names was approaching its limit.

The registrar's staff had to check tens of thousands of applications against the index and in many cases that had to be done twice over. That aspect of the 1948 Companies Act had proved incapable of proper administration as the number of incorporations increased.

Modern technology had provided some help, but a computer which had been installed did not help where one name was in practice likely to be confused with another.

That involved human judgment and the question was how to keep within manageable bounds the cases to which that judgment had to be applied. The Government had proposed that in future the registrar should only disallow names which were identical to existing ones and in other cases the remedy of a passing-off action would be available.

Those proposals had been the subject of considerable comment and the Government had looked again to see how they could be modified so as to meet the expressed concern without unduly eroding the saving in staff.

The Government proposals, logical and effective as they were, overlooked one point—the psychological effect upon would-be promoters of the registrar's discretion.

The Government was willing in principle to agree to amendments asking to that proposed by Lord Mishcon. He could not accept the amendment exactly as drafted because it did not provide for an accelerated registration procedure.

However, the Government accepted the principle of the amendment and undertook to bring forward appropriate amendments at a future stage of the Bill.

The amendment was *rejected* by 58 votes to 43—Government majority, 15.

The report stage was adjourned. House adjourned, 7.47 pm.

MEPs and rules of immunity

European Parliament
Strasbourg

The directly elected Parliament was faced for the first time with a request to consider whether one of its members should be immune from prosecution by the authorities of his country.

The debate arose from a report by its legal affairs committee which recommended Parliament not to waive the immunity of Signor Anselmo Gouthier (Italy, Comm) who, the report stated, was accused of an offence under the laws of the Italian Republic of public safety. After speaking at a public demonstration in favour of peace and disarmament on December 24, 1979, which was not authcrized by the authorities in the Province of Venice.

The Pretore had suspended proceedings against Signor Gouthier because he was a member of the European Parliament. A request for his parliamentary immunity to be waived was drawn up by the public prosecutor.

Mme Francoise Gaspard (France, Soc) Rapporteur of the legal affairs committee, said that Parliament had to decide if not a principle at least a procedure. The Committee had been scrutinizing the status of MPs throughout the 10 member countries to see the concept of immunity, and to find a proper legal concept to be followed by Parliament.

All member countries attempted not to disrupt the work of an MP. The immunity of European MPs was enshrined in the protocol on privileges and immunities under article 4 of the act for direct elections of September, 1976, and article 10 of the protocol. Members would want such immunity as was recognized by the national Parliament when he was on his territory and when on that of other member states he would be protected from legal procedures.

The report said that under article 10 during the sessions of the European Parliament its members should enjoy immunity accorded to members of their Parliament in the territory of their state, and immunity from any measure of detention and from legal proceedings in the territory of any other member state.

Immunity could not be claimed when a member was found in the act of committing an offence and it should not prevent the assembly from exercising its right to waive the immunity of one of its members.

She said that because Signor Gauthier had spoken during a public demonstration in a place where the demonstration had not been authorized, but only a few hundred metres from it, he was accused of violation of the Italian law

The court suspended the procedure against him in view of his status as a European MP. The finding of the committee, that Parliament should be recommended not to more that immunity, was reached unanimously.

Mr Alan Tyrrell (London, East, ED) on behalf of the European Democratic group, said his group had no enthusiasm for immunity for MPs. On the contrary, they thought that there should in principle be no special immunity.

But there might be some member states where immunity was necessary, and his group was not willing that European Parliament MPs should receive in their own states less protection than MPs of their national Parliaments.

In this case, the Italian Parliament would refuse to waive the immunity and, in those circumstances, his group thought that in this case the European Parliament should do likewise.

The vote on the report takes place tomorrow (Tuesday.)

Science report

Behaviour: Blackbird trickery

By the Staff of *Nature*

The famous trick played by Beau Geste to defend his Saharan fort has long been used, it seems, by birds to keep intruders from their territories. Observations by Dr K. Yasukawa, of the Rockefeller University, show that male red-winged blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) fly about their territories singing different songs in different places to give other birds the impression that the area is fully occupied by males. The ruse enables males which can sing many different songs to keep other males out of a large territory and so win more mates than less fluent rivals.

To prevent listeners from realizing that there is really only one bird in the area, the red-winged blackbird needs to do two things: ensure that the songs in its repertoire are different enough to sound like the songs of different birds, and switch song types after flying from one place to another. Dr Yasukawa confirmed that the birds did both. He analysed the songs with a sound spectrograph and measured the song length, number and type of introductory notes and the form of the trills and showed that the songs in a single bird's repertoire were as different from one another as songs from different birds. Again, observations of when the birds changed song type showed that that happened much more often when the birds flew to a new perch than would be expected if the birds simply changed songs at random.

Convincing evidence that the birds were aware of the difference between songs came from experiments in which tape-recorded songs were played through a loudspeaker to birds with established territories. When the birds heard the song, they at first behaved as though another bird was invading their territory and performed a conspicuous aggressive display, spreading their tails and wings and ruffling their feathers, to drive it away.

If the same song was played repeatedly, the birds soon lost interest and stopped displaying when they heard it. If the song type was then changed, the birds began their aggressive displays again as though a new intruder had arrived.

As a final test, the Beau Geste ruse was simulated by playing songs through loudspeakers in an empty territory. The number of intruder birds was observed and it was found that the territory was much more successfully defended by the broadcast of a repertoire of songs than by that of a single song type.

Other species of song birds which have varied song repertoires may use the same trick as the red-winged blackbird. Clearly, the deception will be most effective in birds which live in dense habitat, such as woodland, where it is difficult for other birds to see how many singers there really are. The great tit (*Parus major*) is one European species with a song repertoire that lives in such a habitat and there is evidence that it, too, assesses how crowded an area is by listening to its rivals' songs.

Source: *Animal Behaviour* (vol 29, p 114) 1981.

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Fashion by Suzy Menkes

Photographs by Harry Kerr

The London Collections

For the first time since the 1960s British fashion has hit a winning streak. A new mood of confidence and certainty swelled among the leading designers during last week's London fashion showings.

The spark was ignited as Vivienne Westwood's swashbuckling pirates burst on to the stage in a flash of fireworks and a puff of smoke. Her ringleted models, with their gilded lips, frilled smock shirts and baggy breeches, embodied the romantic theme of the London collections at its most youthful, extrovert and joyous.

The same sense of fun, but with more elegant and restrained clothes, stalked the catwalks all week. Britain is not as strong on sportswear as our European counterparts, but women will like the softened-up sporty line which comes from exchanging classic ankle-length trousers for knee breeches. They are the key to next autumn's dressing.

The three-quarter length tunic, cut in a full-smock shape by Roland Klein or Jean Muir, is another important look, shown with the cropped trousers or with a slim skirt. The effect, especially when the tunics are made in rich fabrics or appliqued with suede or leather, is of a renaissance courtier (matching hose and buckled footwear *de rigeur*).

London is now the evening capital of the world, with the ball gown sweeping all before it (especially for the American market) and with a strong return to formal dressing. This mostly means those breeches again, in taffeta, velvet or moire worn with soft blouses frilled at the neck, or with enormous bows.

Other designers prefer to make their Fortuny's. The maestro of the pleat is recalled in many collections, from Zandra Rhodes' gilded fans of pleats, to Yuki's rainbow-coloured circles.

Colours are rich russet browns, deep fir green, ruby red, peacock blue, with a wash of gold and bronze throughout. The effect is nothing like the earthy, back-to-nature tones of the ethnic era but rather of a renaissance fresco brought to life. Paisley is the print of the season.

Fashion is all about capturing a mood and encapsulating it in clothes that women want to wear. I believe that London has caught that fashion feeling and the autumn collections will mark a turning point in the tides of our wardrobes. I hope that it can do the same for our fashion industry as a whole.

Vivienne Westwood

An electric atmosphere usually experienced only at Kenzo Takada's Paris shows filled the Pillar Hall at Olympia, where fans of the New Romantic wave in pop music vied with press and buyers to see Vivienne *Westwood's* show.

Although ostensibly for autumn, most of the clothes were cotton and many are currently on sale in the World's End shop. The theme is of devil-may-care pirates who count among their booty lavish broderie anglais trimmings, buckled tapestry boots and odd baggy-bottom trousers (for tucking gold coins away?).

The cut is more subtle than first appears, with complicated (and cheeky) nappy-wrapped skirts and slashed sleeves. Behind the vulgarity (T-shirts with rouleaux of fabric sprouting like bean shoots from the breasts) is a creative exuberance which will be felt throughout the industry.

Best of the rest

There were fashion comebacks for both Japanese-born Yuki and for John Bates, both of whom seemed constrained by their backers' choice of fabrics.

Yuki's extraordinary cutting skills triumphed over some very old colouring (sunray pleats in banana yellow with sky blue) and his scarlet and black minidresses were a definite mistake. But Fortuny would have been impressed by the pleated ruff on an embroided velvet dressing gown of a coat and in the unfurling pleated chiffon evening dresses.

John Bates found himself in the dying moments of his show with a splendid bridal outfit of white man jodphurs. Clearly the British Raj (jodphurs and Paisley) is a more fruitful fashion seam than the Indian peasant prints he used for smock dresses.

Ann Buck did good things with bronzed leather breeches and bobbly hand knits before losing the thread among her little jersey frocks. Murray Arbeid showed the rest of London how to make the swelling, swirling shape of a ball gown, even though Bruce Oldfield and Victor Edelstein are treading on the heels of his glass slippers.

Jean Muir



Jean Muir breaks new ground gently, like a reluctant swimmer testing the water with one toe.

She need not be so reticent about moving away from the familiar fluid dresses which have become her hallmark, for with everything, from suede to tweed, she has a sure touch. I could have looked at many more of her English Lady tweeds, all easy, edge-to-edge and collarless for both suits and coats.

Three striking Miro patterned artist's smocks were apparently just testing, for they disappeared before we could take in the burst of colour and volume among the skinny and sombre dresses (mostly swinging just a few inches above the ankle.)

Jean Muir works suede with infinite skill into loose coat dresses, with a frilled neckline as her one concession to romance. The suedes come in clear colours — raspberry pink, cobalt blue and grass green — or are printed with flat flowers.

Culottes in holly berry red or ivy green should light up Christmas parties as effectively as Jean Muir's matt black suede trimmed with silver and gold leather.



Zandra Rhodes

Zandra Rhodes fuelled her outrageous reputation with sequinned G-strings, liquorice black vinyl-with-lace dresses and a velvet dress decorated with gilded fans as breastplates and sporran.

She really makes ravishingly pretty Cinderella dresses of printed chiffon, sashed in fondant colours and decorated with the tiniest of pearls. The same beaded effect appears on her cloud soft pleated evening knitwear, surely the most chic cardigans in the world.

Sunburst circles of pleats in cloth-of-gold lame look newer than the chiffon crinolines. Fresher still is Zandra's use of black velvet, sculpted into Elizabethan evening dresses set on a corsage like a swimsuit.

Zandra's glamorous dresses are subtly sensuous, with fine curtains of net drawn across the upper bosom or necklines dipping in a deep cowl at the back. Her detailing is superb, like the flower shaped panniers at the hips of a ball gown or whorls of pleats like a conche shell on the shoulders.

Janice Wainwright & Roland Klein







Like two Rolls Royces purring along without a break in the engine beat, Janice Wainwright and Roland Klein both turn out better and better collections each season.

Both showed breeches, Janice's on a renaissance page-boy silhouette with neat waisted jacket and knee breeches, Klein with the softest of satin pantaloons shown with lacy camisole tops, like some naughty nineties post card.

Klein shows his French origins with his marvellous tailoring, seen at its best in seven-eighths tunics over slim skirts, and in his carefully thought-out use of colour and pattern. Daytime colour themes, like coffee and cream or mandarin orange with milk chocolate, are elaborated at night into rich crimson and gold paisleys or maharajah mixes of deep blue and gold.

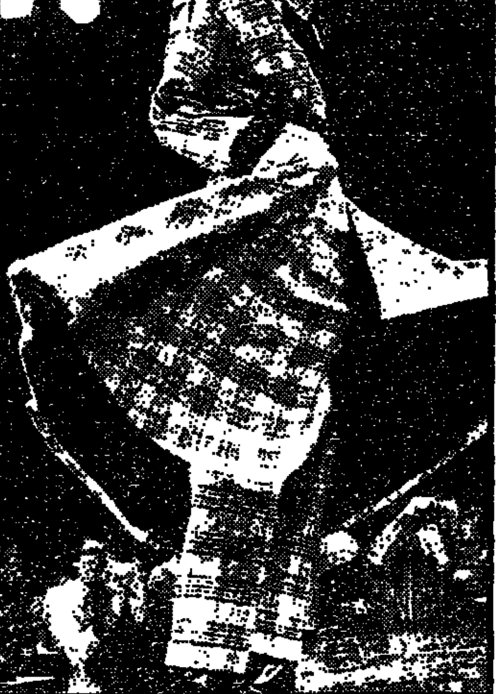
Janice Wainwright's colour palette is more sombre, although she also uses a Paisley print for a stunning quilted satin jacket in a controlled peasant look.

Her collection is carefully orchestrated from the simplest of outfits in crepe with appliqués to the most sumptuous ruffled taffetas in topaz, bois de rose or black.

Fashion aficionados say of both Janice Wainwright and Roland Klein that they lack the creativity that brings the absolute triumphs and the embarrassing disasters. I consider producing consistently lovely and wearable clothes a positive asset.

The Paris Collections





Montana

Fidelity may not be a traditional French virtue, but in an economic crisis and an election year fashion designers prefer to return to their old loves.

Kenzo's affair with the pretty peasant girl has already lasted a decade and in a dazzling pretty show he showed off her newest clothes. There are soft Paisley-printed wool skirts, boldly flowered knits and velvet, knobbly Irish tweed and a flurry of high-necked frilled blouses.

Kenzo's newest silhouette is the mini-skirt peeping out from under a seven-eighths jacket, especially effective in a pepper and salt tweed with a bright checkerboard knitted skirt. His colour palette is otherwise strong and bright with combinations like hot pink and jade green for flower-printed velvet jackets and ruffled paper-taffeta dresses.

Claude Montana seems to be in love with the opera. His marvellously theatrical show was awash with embroidered velvet, lacy collars, swashbuckling brocade capes and evening gowns like a Queen of Hearts come to life.

All was romance and richness, with lavish use of suede and leather, as well as some interesting Celtic looks for tweed tunics with ankle-cuffed trousers.

Behind the spectacular presentations and extraordinary headwear (jester's caps and medieval wimples for Montana and lacquered fans of hair at Thierry Mugler) is a choice of two fashion looks for next winter: short skirts for the young and leggy and a revival of the big full skirt for everyone else.

The two themes appeared side by side at *Chloe*, where designer Karl Lagerfeld clearly expects the wife to wear his mid-calf full-skirted coat dresses (often slit open over trousers) and the mistress to step out in short leather minis topped by cape-collared knits.

This schizophrenic collection produced some delicious clothes, like the swirling scarlet and gold embroidered grey flannel dresses that started the show and lavishly-embroidered mini tunics. But the dual message will leave many women confused.

The return of the big silhouette is a strong story all over Paris (like Ungaro's huge highwayman's cape over a full artist's smock). In general the volume comes on the long clothes and the mini lengths are slim. But even that rule was broken by Thierry Mugler's fitted Rita Hayworth suits with mid-calf straight skirts and his extraordinary thigh-high ball dresses.

Sonia Rykiel likes long narrow skirts under her skinny tunics. She also loves black as she proclaims on her jewelled collars saying "Black is beautiful".

Chrome yellow, scarlet and white (as well as camel and cream) highlight her favourite black for mid-calf pleated skirts worn over cuffed trousers.

Other Paris pointers are the seven-eighths tunics everywhere, the return of the knee-high boot, Paisley prints (very effectively mixed with stripes at Ungaro) and plaid used by every other designer from Tarlazzi to Montana.

But perhaps the most significant sign of all, at a time of falling French exports, is the giant pavillion devoted to clothes from Hongkong at the prestigious Pret-a-porter exhibition.

Paris designers can only hope that fidelity to their own style, to impeccable cut and to exquisite workmanship are still enough.

Chloe



Kenzo

Cricket

Rowe makes the fourth century against limited England attack

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Kingston, April 6

With a limited attack, consisting of Botham, Emburey, Gatting, Gooch and Jackman, England let a promising position slip here this afternoon. Between lunch and tea Jamaica added 138 runs with some splendidly uninhibited batting.

From Lawrence Rowe came the fourth hundred of the tour to be made against England, the others belonging to Vivian Richards (two) and Jeffrey Dujohn, who was out cheaply today. Against the last England side to West Indies and this one Rowe has played 10 innings, five of them being hundreds and one a triple hundred, and scored 891 runs.

The difference between the game at Sabina Park and in England is reflected in Rowe's contrasting fortunes here and there. In his one season with Derbyshire in the mid-seventies he failed to make a hundred in more than 30 innings.

England took their first wicket at the end of an hour's play, Austin, who had played some confident strokes off the faster bowling, sweeping Emburey high to long leg. Emburey was bowling at middle and leg, with six men on the on side. It made for a hazardous existence at short leg, for Gooch and Gatting, and gave the batsmen no chance to show what they can do on the off side. It is a dull, constricting method, more a way of shutting up a game than opening it up.

For those on the England side who had not seen him before Rowe's batting must have been a revelation. Not many small men can drive fast bowling as he does, and he has all the back foot strokes. One late cut off Emburey, taken from off the off stump and feathered down past slip's right hand, was a gem.

Rowe has no need to worry where to put his feet; they move instinctively into the right place. When 37 he survived a hard return chance to Jackman. At lunch, taken at 187 for five, he was 66 not out.

By then Dujon, on the border line for selection in the West Indian side to tour Australia later this year, had been bowled by Emburey, playing back to one that kept low and knocked out his middle stump, and the left-handed Chang, a carbon copy of Kallicharran, had been run out. Gower took Chang by surprise, cutting off a hook near the square leg umpire and having the ball back in Downton's gloves before Chang could return from the run he had started.

With Old and Boycott missing there were still two English substitutes on the field; Downton, however, was back behind the stumps and Bairstow to be found hurling himself around on the

In the first hour this afternoon the balance of the game changed completely. From having been in danger of following on Jamaica added 85 runs, Rowe scoring 47 of them and Neita, another diminutive right hander, 35.


Rowe : he has all the back foot strokes.

England were short enough of bowling for Gatting to be called upon for the first time on the tour. Rowe went storming past his hundred, looking more than ever like George Emmett, who was one of the game's artists just after the war.

Neita, though rougher than Rowe, was scarcely overshadowed. The new ball, taken at 258 for five, did nothing to stem the flow. It was hot work in the field; it usually is in Jamaica at this time of year.

When, at 295, Botham had Rowe leg before, the sixth wicket partnership was worth 115. It can no longer be written into the Island's constitution that Rowe must never be adjudged leg before. Soon after tea Neita, taking a pace down to Emburey, was smartly stumped.

Package deal : Andy Roberts, the West Indian fast bowler, is to play mid-week cricket for Leicestershire this season. Haslingden, the Lancashire League club who signed Roberts as professional eight months ago, have arranged a package deal with the County.

ENGLAND: First Innings: 415 (G. Boycott 98, M. W. Gatting 95).

JAMAICA: First Innings

R. A. Austin, c Butcher, b Emburey	62
A. B. Williams, c Gooch, b Botham	10
E. H. Mattis, b Jackman	15
L. G. Rowe lbw b Botham	116
J. Dujohn b Emburey	6
H. S. Chang, run out	12
M. Neita, st Downton, b Emburey	57
A. Tucker not out	21
D. Malcolm not out	6
Extras	20
Total (7 wkts)	335

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—17, 2—3?, 3—131, 4—155, 5—181, 6—295, 7—327.

Athletics

Match that led to protest and wrangling

By Norman Fox

Future financial assistance from the Sports Council for athletics at Crystal Palace could be withheld as a result of the British Amateur Athletic Board's decision to move next July's match against Russia to Gateshead. The Council are understood to have made a strong protest to the board with claim that if they had not moved this important fixture it would have been in jeopardy because no sponsor had come forward.

The Sports Council are concerned that their investment in the National Sports Centre is not fully justified when one of the athletics season's most attractive matches is moved away from Crystal Palace. The director-general, Emlyn Jones, said yesterday that although it was the board's prerogative to hold some major events outside London, they had fallen down on a moral commitment made at a fixtures meeting last November.

Mr Jones said he was bitterly disappointed at the decision and that £1,600 had been spent on ticket printing and other items of preparation. He felt that the results of the move could influence future Council decisions on the provision of athletics facilities at Crystal Palace.

The contents of the council's letter of protest is expected to be revealed today by Bill Evans, the board's chairman, but I understand it refers to "grave concern" over the decision which the council claim has caused considerable inconvenience. Doubt is cast on the economics of moving the match in view of the extra cost involved in transporting the Russians to Gateshead.

Mr Jones said there was no contract, but that the relationship between the Council and the Board was based on mutual trust. He found it hard to believe that no sponsor could be found for the meeting at Crystal Palace.

David Shaw, secretary of the board, said last night: "Crystal Palace knew we had problems over sponsorship. A deadline passed and there was no news so I put out feelers and a sponsor appeared. It was a very good offer, but because of the nature of the sponsorship, which has not yet been announced, the match had to be held at Gateshead."

Mr Shaw admitted that staff at Crystal Palace were upset and disappointed but they had always been in the picture and understood the position. He added: "The meeting was in jeopardy and I wonder what the Sports Council would have said if we had put it on at a loss."

Golf

Faldo swoops through the storm towards a more lucrative future

From John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent
Greensboro, April 6

One unfortunate aspect of Nick Faldo's success in finishing third here yesterday in the Greater Greensboro Open golf tournament is that we may now be seeing less of him in Britain. His prize of $20,400 places him on a much higher level of hope and aspiration.

He had already decided to play in the United States in preference to the opening of the European season in Spain, Italy and France and return for the first British tournament, the Martini at Wentworth. Now a more inviting and lucrative prospect lies before him.

By this one swoop here in North Carolina, Faldo won his United States player's card for 1982, for which he needed to amass prize money of $9,100. It had taken him four tournaments to reach that figure when he first came here in January and so receive his card for 1981. Now he has handsomely acquired the necessary loot for next year in only one event.

The new goal is to finish this year in the top 60 in the United States, which carries exemption from having to pre-qualify on the Monday before each tournament. He has been spared that ordeal thus far by the Ryder Cup exemptions, of which he has used only two, and by surviving the 36-hole cut, which carries the same privilege for the following week's tournament.

The top 60 requires winnings of about $65,000 to $70,000. The last place in 1980 was taken by George Archer on $67,000 and a few cents. It has to be said that some famous names were missing at Greensboro: Nicklaus, Watson and Miller by design, saving themselves for the Masters this week; Floyd by unhappy mischance, because of his young son's illness. But does Trevino no longer count? Nor Rogers, Devlin and Stadler, successively first, second and third in the previous week's tournament? Nor Wadkins and Norman, seventh and eighth? Nor Severiano Ballesteros, the Masters champion, nor Isao Aoki, now presented with his United States player's card? What of that teeming horde of young Americans who were said to bar the way to any British success over here?

The contrasting conditions attending his 68 on Saturday and his 69 yesterday show him to be a gifted all weather golfer. On Saturday, for the third day running, the temperature was in the high seventies and the greens like glass. Yesterday the weather was foul, with rain lashing down all day on a gusty wind, and with everybody except perhaps Faldo, all through, and Nelson, at the very last, thoroughly dispirited.

Brilliantly as Faldo played on Saturday, when he yielded a stroke to only one man, Archer, his 69 yesterday, surpassed by nobody and emulated only by Burns, was even more meritorious. The scores, as well as one's own damp discomfort, suggested that the course was playing at least two strokes longer and calling for flexibility of approach, with the pin again placed in the most inaccessible position.

Yet Faldo, for all his mature golf and composure, is still young, only 23. This compares with an average age among the top 10 finishers, himself excluded, of 31, of whom the youngest was 27.

In the end he had to be an onlooker when the last dramatic scene was played out. He had finished on six under par and stood his ground as the last group of Nelson, Hayes and Trevino came to the 18th. Hayes, [illegible] shots ahead and on the [illegible] in two, would clearly finish ah[ead] of Faldo but Nelson, at six un[der] was in a nasty bunker beside [the] green.

So far as Faldo was concer[ned] the issue was whether he w[ould] receive $20,400 for third pl[ace], $26,400 for shared second p[lace] or $32,400 for clear second. In [the event] Nelson, in the face of all pr[obability], holed his bunker shot, w[hen] he later admitted that he had [been] playing only to get it close en[ough] for a single putt. Hayes, per[haps] not surprisingly, took three [from] the back.

The psychological boost [was] enough to carry Nelson to vic[tory] with a birdie four on the sec[ond] extra hole. It was Nelson's fo[urth] PGA victory since he began s[ix] years ago. But many of us [were] convinced that Faldo was the winner on the day.

The leaders: 281: L. Nelson, 69, 69, 72, 71; H. Hayes, 70, 69, 6[illegible] (Nelson won play-off). 282: N. [illegible] (GB), 72, 73, 68, 69. 283: [illegible] Trevino, 69, 72, 70, 72. 286: [illegible] Burns, 69, 76, 72, 69; B. Cren[illegible] 73, 72, 70, 71. 287: R. Sh[illegible] (Australia), 73, 72, 70, 72; J. [illegible] 68, 72, 76, 71; W. Rogers, 7[illegible] 70, 71; H. Walzel, 70, 74, 7[illegible] D. Stockton, 74, 72, 69, 72; D. [illegible] 71, 72, 70, 74; E. Fiori, 70, 75 [illegible] 74. 288: I. Aoki (Japan), 71, 73 [illegible] 72; C. Stadler, 72, 72, 70, 74. [illegible] foreign scores: 293: G. Player (S Africa), 71, 73, 75, 74. 294: [illegible] Oosterhuis (GB), 75, 72, 74, 7[illegible] Ballesteros (Spain), 76, 70, 73[illegible] 295: G. Norman (Australia), 72, 72, 75.

January best of Seniors

Tampa, Florida, April 6.—Don January scored a 67, five-under-par, yesterday to catch a faltering Arnold Palmer and then went on to win the Professional Golf Association's (PGA) $125,000 Seniors Tournament on the first hole of a sudden death play-off.

Palmer threw away a seven-stroke lead in the final round by going over par on six consecutive holes from the short 12th. "I don't think I've ever made six bogeys in a row," Palmer said afterwards.

Playing in his first seniors' tournament, formed for players aged 50 and over, Palmer jumped into what seemed to be an unbeatable lead by scoring two birdies and an eagle on the first [illegible] holes. He finished with a two-[over] par 74 and a 281 total, one st[roke] behind January and Doug Fo[rd].

January had eight birdies, [in]cluding an important one at [the] 18th that assured a play-off [with] Ford. He won the tournament [and] $20,000 on the first extra hol[e] sinking a two-foot putt fo[r a] birdie.

FINAL SCORES: 280: D. Ja[nuary] 71, 70, 72, 67; D. Ford 66, 73, 71, [illegible]. 281: A. Palmer 68, 71, 68, [illegible]. 283: J. Goosie 73, 70, 71, 70. [illegible] G. Littler 74, 70, 72, 68. 285 [illegible] Barber 69, 70, 75, 71. 287: B. J[illegible] 74, 69, 71, 73. 288: A. Wall 73, 69, 72. 289: J. Barber (Can[illegible]) 73, 74, 72, 70; C. Sifford 70, 75, 71; J. Fleck 75, 71, 71, 72; [illegible] Souchak 73, 69, 72, 75. 290 [illegible] Owens 73, 74, 73, 70; B. Maxwell 71, 73, 74; T. Bolt 72, 73, 71. —Reuter.

Augusta Masters returns to grass roots

From Frank Hannigan
New York, April 6

Thirteen PGA tour events have now been played during 1981 and nearly $4m in prize money dispensed. So much for the preliminaries. For much of America the golf season actually begins with the playing of the Masters tournament in Augusta, Georgia, this week.

The Masters is the earliest of the four components of the modern Grand Slam tournaments borrowed from Bridge to describe the feat of Bobby Jones in 1930 when he won the Open and Amateur Championships of both Great Britain and the United States in one season.

The Masters, founded by Jones himself, and the United States PGA championship long ago displaced the Amateur Championships, which now are relegated in the public mind to the role of preparatory trials for future professionals. Lovers of the game outside the United States often scowl at including the PGA championships in this galaxy, but they are rebuffed by the metaphorical requirement that there must be four, not three, elements in a Grand Slam.

So it is that when a golfer retires, his record is assessed in terms of his performance in these four tournaments alone rather than in the four titles captured or money won. The money, although it spends nicely, is useless as an indicator of grandeur. Ben Hogan's best year for prize money was 1948 when he won $42,556, or somewhat less than the $47,107 earned by Morris Hatalsky last year on the United States tour. Hatalsky was placed 74th on the money list.

The histories, traditions, and presentations of the four major tournaments vary sharply but each has a common and critical validation: the players care about them. These are not the weeks for money-making; these are the weeks for making history.

Indeed, Jack Nicklaus has carefully constructed his career around the Grand Slam tournaments. He has won them 17 times, most recently last summer when he won both the United States Open and PGA titles.

Walter Hagen with 11 is a distant second to Nicklaus in this regard. Of contemporaries Gary Player comes closest to Nicklaus with nine victories in the great events. Tom Watson, for all his brilliance and domination of the American golf scene in recent years, has won only four of the Grand Slam tournaments.

The disparity between Watson and Nicklaus in this context is one of which they are both acutely aware. Nicklaus, in fact, recently said that his sole purpose in continuing to play is to build an invincible record—which he defines as meaning victory in the tournaments that matter to him.

This week's Masters offers a curious sub-plot concerning the arena itself. There is question as to whether or not the highly-publicised renovation of the Augusta National course's putting greens has been successful.

The plant surface of the old greens was deliberately destroyed last summer by the club. A noxious chemical in gaseous form was [in]jected into plastic tents over [the] greens. The grass destroyed [was] primarily bermudagrass, a [grass] that thrives in hot weather [but] does not begin its renewed gr[owth] until the first warm evening[s of] May, a month after the Masters.

The US Golf Association includes in its arsenal a simple [device] called a Stimpmeter. A ball t[rickles] down a groove in this de[vice] and the number of feet the [ball] rolls is said to be its Stimpm[eter] speed. The Augusta club has [not] revealed its readings but the c[om]mon assumption is that offi[cials] were convinced and concerned [that] the speed of their greens was [not] in keeping with the reputation [of] the Masters.

After the old surfaces were [des]troyed the greens, their old [con]tours intact, were newly see[ded] with bentgrass, a species co[nsi]dered superior for golf putt[ing] greens but which is intolerant [of] high temperatures and humid[ity]. Newer and more durable strain[s of] that grass, including the one in[tro]duced at Augusta have been de[ve]loped in recent years.

An impressive battery of exp[erts] have been called in to get [the] greens right. Alarming rep[orts] drifted north of putting gre[ens] with very little substance. [illegible] members were said to be usin[g a] number of "temporary" green[s], a euphemism for holes cut in f[air]ways.

More recently the medical bu[lle]tins have been positive. The gre[ens] are said to have responded mar[vel]lously to all kinds of ministratio[ns]. Judgment will be passed [this] week.

Hockey

Malaysians hit form to put out Wales

Kuala Lumpur, April 6.—Malaysia hit superb form in the Inter-Continental Cup to beat Wales 4—0 today and win a place in the semi-finals. The Malaysians, who now meet Ireland on Wednesday, won the game with a devastating three-goal spell early in the second half.

The Welsh, who had to win to pip their hosts for a place in the last four, started well, but after failing to convert four penalty corners, they buckled under to the Malaysians' speed and superior stickwork. Malaysia, who led 1—0 at the interval through a 30th minute goal by full back Foo Keat Seong, really struck form after the break. Two minutes after the restart the centre forward, Poon Fook Loke scored an opportunist goal, picking up a loose ball and flicking it home from an acute angle. In the space of five minutes, Foo then went on to score three goals.

GROUP A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Malaysia	5	4	1	0	15	4	9
Soviet Union	5	3	2	0	14	3	8
Wales	5	3	1	1	7	8	7
Japan	5	1	1	3	[illegible]	15	3
Zimbabwe	5	1	0	4	[illegible]	15	2
Italy	5	0	1	4	4	14	1

GROUP B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
New Zealand	5	5	0	0	15	3	10
Ireland	5	3	1	1	10	6	7
Belgium	5	3	1	1	8	4	7
France	5	2	0	3	7	7	4
Canada	5	1	0	4	7	11	2
Singapore	5	0	0	5	3	17	0

Sheila Morrow (Penarth) has been appointed captain of the Great Britain women's hockey squad, after only one season as captain of Wales. A party of 16 has been selected to play in the quadrangular tournament in Dublin (April 24-26).

PARTY: M. Souyave, J. Burrows, L. Carr, M. Eckersall, P. Gibbon, K. Gordon, B. Holden, J. Jurischka, V. Robinson, J. Swinnerton (England), S. Morrow, W. Banks, J. Foston, M. Pugh (Wales); M. Craigie, S. Macdonald (Scotland).

For the record

Yesterday's results

Fourth division

Mansfield (0) 1 Aldershot (0) 2
Burrows Sandford
2,748 Robinson

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham 0, Telford 3; Maidstone 4, Barnet 1.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedford 0, Merthyr Tydfil 1; Taunton 0, Kidderminster 3. Southern division: Aylesbury 0, Crawley 2; Poole 5, Andover 0; Tonbridge 1, Chelmsford 1.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Netherfield 0, Burton Albion 2.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Harrow Borough 0, Leatherhead 1.
OTHER MATCH: Wycombe Wanderers 3, F.A. Vard (Norway) 0.
RUGBY UNION: Club match: Moseley 14, Walsall 14. Schools match: Davenant Foundation 7, Llswerry 3.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: St Helens 29, Warrington 9.

Football

NORTH AMERICAN LEAGUE: Washington Diplomats 3, Atlanta Chiefs 2; Los Angeles Aztecs 1, San Jose Earthquakes 0; California Surf 1, San Diego Sockers 0.

Tennis

GRAND PRIX: Standings (US unless stated) 1. J. Connors 630 pts; 2. R. Tanner, 574; 3. G. Mayer, 543; 4. W. Fibak (Poland), 496; 5. Y. Noah (France), 410; 6. I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia), 371; 7. J. McEnroe, 350; 8. B. Gottfried, 296; 9. T. Smid (Czechoslovakia), 240; 10. S. Mayer, 223.
BOISE, Idaho: Futures tournament: Final: Miss C. Kohde (West Germany) beat Miss A. Kiyomura (US), 7—6, 5—6, 6—4. Doubles Final: Miss S. Acker and Miss P. Smith (US) beat Miss M. Mesker (Netherlands) and Miss C. Jolissaint (Switzerland), 7—5, 7—5.
CARLSTAD, California: Final: Mrs C. Lloyd (US) beat Miss H. Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia), 6—4, 6—5. Third place play-off: Miss P. Shriber (US) beat Miss A. Jaeger (US), 6—3, 6—2.

Hockey

BUENOS AIRES: Women's world championship: Final: West Germany 1, Netherlands 1 (WG won 3—1 on penalties). Final standings: 1, WG; 2, Netherlands; 3, USSR; 4, Australia; 5, Canada; 6, Argentina; 7, Japan; 8, Belgium; 9, France; 10, Spain; 11, Mexico; 12 Austria.

Cycling

LAZKAO, SPAIN: Tour of the Basque Country Race. first stage placings (Spanish unless stated): 1, J Fernandez; 2, F Favero (Italy); 3, S Contini (Italy) all 4hr. 51min. 46secs; 4, Lagula; 5, Esparza: both 4:51:49.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Black Hawks 8, Minnesota North Stars 4; Montreal Canadiens 4, Boston Bruins 2; New York Islanders 7, Buffalo Sabres 5; New York Rangers 2, Philadelphia Flyers 0; Washington Capitals 7, Detroit Red Wings 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 5, Hartford Whalers 4; Toronto Maple Leafs 4, Quebec Nordiques 2; St Louis Blues 5, Winnipeg Jets 5. Qualifiers for play-offs: Patrick Division: New York Islanders (Champions), Philadelphia Flyers, Calgary Flames, New York Rangers. Smythe Division: St Louis Blues (Champions), Chicago Black Hawks, Vancouver Canucks, Edmund Oilers.
MOSCOW: European Junior Cup Qualifying rounds final standings: Group A: 1, Soviet Union, 6 pts; 2, Finland, 4; 3, West Germany, 2; 4, Austria, 0. Group B: 1, Czechoslovakia and Sweden, 5; 3, Switzerland, 2; 4, Poland, 0. USSR, Sweden, Finland and Czechoslovakia failed to qualify.

Shooting

BISLEY: English Open double-rise clay pigeon championship: 1, K. Borley (Burton-on-Trent), 202 (out of 250); 2, I. Coley (Cheltenham), 202 (Borley won after shoot-off). Team: Garlands Shooting Ground, 941 (out of 1,250).

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Play-off games: Western Conference: First round: Houston Rockets 89, Los Angeles Lakers 86 (Houston win series, 2—1), Kansas City Kings 104, Portland Trail Blazers 95 (Kansas City win series, 2—1). Eastern Conference: Semi-finals: Boston Celtics 121, Chicago Bulls 109 (Boston lead best-of-seven series, 1—0); Philadelphia 76ers 125, Milwaukee Bucks 122 (Philadelphia leads series, 1—0).

Golf

PALM SPRINGS: WPGA tournament, final round leaders (US unless stated): 277: N. Lopez-Melton 71, 73, 69, 64. 279: C. Hill 70, 70, 70, 69. 280: J. Blalock 71, 70, 70, 69. 281: B. Daniel 73, 73, 70, 65. 282: A. Alcott 73, 71, 70, 68; S. Palmer 70, 72, 71, 69; G. Toushin 75, 69, 73, 65. 284: J. Stephenson (Australia) 69, 72, 73, 70; S. McAllister 74, 71, 69, 70. 285: P. Pulz (Australia) 69, 74, 72, 70; V. Fergon 71, 74, 71, 69.

Rackets

BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP: Second round: J. Prenn beat S. Tulley (Charterhouse), 15—1, 15—18, 18—2. A. Lovell beat G. Hyland (New York), 12—15, 12—15, 17—15, 17—14, 15—10. C. Hue-Williams beat C. Ohlson, 15—4, 15—8, 15—9. R. Crawley beat S. Hazell (Wellington), 15—0, 15—15, 15—9, 15—7.

Tennis

Italy seeking to put an end to exhibitions

Rome, April 6.—Italy's tennis federation today took unprecedented action to outlaw exhibition matches, saying they were gravely damaging to the sport. Observers immediately predicted retaliatory action by top players, whose earnings are increasingly dependent on the highly-popular unofficial tournaments.

The federation have threatend one-year suspensions against members who help to organize exhibitions, which they define as tournaments lasting less than four days and involving fewer than 16 players selected arbitarily. The announcement came as the United States No 1, John McEnroe, arrived in Rome for a four-sided exhibition worth $100,000, which organizers confirmed would go ahead.

The federation, the first tennis authority in the world to attack exhibitions, was apparently reacting to Italy's unexpected defeat in the Davis Cup by Britain last month. Adriano Panatta and his team colleagues were accused of poor preparation for the match by playing lucrative exhibition matches rather than official tournaments.—Reuter.

NICE: Open Tournament: C. Lewis (NZ) beat G. Guerrero (Argentina) 6—3, 6—3; E. Deblicker (France) leads P. Hutka (Czechoslovakia) 6—3, 7—6, 2—0.

Miss Shriver enters

The American Pam Shriver, ranked seventh in the world, has entered the Beckenham grass court tennis tournament sponsored by the *Kentish Times*, from June 1 to 6. The tournament clashes with the second week of the French championships.

JPR leads guest XV

J. P. R. Williams, Wales's most capped players, will captain a strong Crawshay's Welsh XV against the newly-formed French Barbarians in Clermont-Ferrand on May 15. The squad includes 12 internationals. A second match against Aurillac has been arranged for May 17.

PARTY: J. P. R. Williams (Bridgend), L. Keen (Aberavon), D. Burcher (Cardiff), R. Fenwick (Bridgend), C. Williams (Bridgend), R. Ackerman (Newport), A. Browning (Newbridge), P. Bennett (Llanelli), M. Douglas (Llanelli), D. Davies (South Wales Police), I. Stephens (Bridgend), M. Watkins (Cardiff), [illegible] (Neath), [illegible] Martin (Aberavon), [illegible] (Bridgend), C. Davis (Newbridge), G. Burgess (Ebbw Vale), G. Williams (Bridgend), T. David (Pontypridd).

Saltires at Esher

The Scottish invitation XV, the Saltires, will play Esher tomorrow in a floodlit game in memory of the young Esher player Mike Symington, who died in a road accident. The visiting XV hope to include Scotland's centre, David Johnston.

Snooker

Davis can beat the system

By Sydney Friskin

Most snooker experts believe that nothing can stop Steve Davis, of Plumstead, from becoming the world professional champion, but the next fortnight will tell whether this will be his year or not. The championship, sponsored by Embassy, starts today at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, and the hours of play each day will be 3.15 pm and 7.30 pm.

Joining the 16 players, who gained automatic entry, are eight qualifiers from various centres to make a total of 24, each having but a single thought—to take the game's most cherished prize won last year by Cliff Thorburn, of Canada, who had the mental control necessary to achieve his greatest ambition.

Davis is seeded No 13 but this is the result of the system and does not reflect his standing in the tournament. He is the favourite and there are firm grounds for this view.

Since winning the United Kingdom professional title at Preston last November he followed up with three successes to bring his winning total alone to £25,000. In terms of figures, Davis has dominated the season despite his failure in the Masters tournament, sponsored by Benson and Hedges, in London a couple of months ago when he was beaten in a nine-frame match by Perrie Mans, of South Africa.

From the time Davis eliminated Terry Griffiths, the holder in last year's event he has become one of the most feared players in the world today. He has the dedication, the technique and the coolness that make a champion. Although his cue action is slow he has the ability to create power without exertion.

Since winning the title last year Thorburn's results have fallen below expectation, although he won the Canadian and two other tournaments, but his chances of staying champion can never be discounted. He has changed his approach somewhat and is now attacking a little more.

Thorburn has settled in England and feels more relaxed now that he has forsaken the hurly burly of hotel life and can drive back from snooker to some real home cooking. He feels he has to win again to make people believe in him.

The draw, with the seedings in parentheses, is:

FIRST ROUND: A. Knowles v G. Miles (16); C. Wilson v D. Taylor (9); A. Meo v J. Virgo (12); J. White v S. Davis (13); W. Thorne v D. Mountjoy (14); J. Dunning v K. Stevens (11); D. Martin v W. Werbeniuk (10); R. Edmonds v J. Spencer (15).

SECOND ROUND: Knowles or Miles v C. Thorburn (1); Wilson or D. Taylor v F. Davis (8); Meo or Virgo v T. Griffiths (5); White or S. Davis v A. Higgins (4); Thorne or Mountjoy v E. Charlton (3); Dunning or Stevens v D. Taylor (6); Martin or Werbeniuk v P. Mans (7); Edmonds or Spencer v R. Reardon (2).

Squash rackets

The iron in Hunt's soul

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Players representing three nations and a variety of playing methods remain in contention for the British open championship and unequal portions of the £9,250 allocated to the last four. The pairings in this evening's semi-final round at the Churchill Theatre, Bromley, will be Geoff Hunt (Australia) v Gamal Awad (Egypt) and Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) v Qamar Zaman (Pakistan). The tournament is sponsored by Audi.

Hunt embodies the iron in the soul of the Anglo-Saxon sportsman. In 12 years he has twice been runner-up and seven times champion. Awad, a bouncy little chap whose energies are always on the boil, was British amateur champion in 1978 and 1979, but has never before done as well as this in the Open event. He has beaten Hunt, but the Australian's game was not as finely tuned then at it is now.

Zaman, a deadpan comedian, and a player of unsurpassed artistry, has been champion once and runner-up three times. He will be motivated by the fact that, rather like Jimmy Connors in tennis, he is unwilling to accept third place in the order of precedence. But it is doubtful if he still has the confidence and match fitness to shake off the psychological ascendancy already established by Jahangir whose abilities and demeanour reflect the best qualities of the old-fashioned professionals.

Jahangir, aged 17, has played only seven matches in the Open championship—winning six in straight games and losing the other, last year, to Jonah Barrington. But in every other respect the intensity of his experience is more obvious than its brief duration.

So far, the championship has been marked by the withdrawal of two seeds, the retirement of a third, the defeat of a fourth, and a heartening evidence provided by Philip Kenyon and Gawain Briars that a new generation of British players is beginning to emerge from Barrington's long shadow.

Continuing the occasional series on great teams with the Davis Cup side of 1933

How Britain outduelled the Four Musketeers

We do not usually think of lawn tennis as a team game, despite recent American developments, and more long-standing institutions such as county week, and the University match. Nevertheless, the British Davis Cup team in the mid 1930s stirred the national imagination to such an extent that it must be ranked as a "great side".

Of course, tennis had boomed in the 1920s. Lenglen, Borotra, Tilden had become, it was often said, "household names": but this was only true in households on the upper slopes of the middle class. In the 1930s the interest, even the passion, began to expand over the whole social spectrum. This came about partly because of the proliferation of municipal tennis courts, and partly because, round about 1930, working-class homes were rapidly acquiring the wireless.

The BBC was quick to spot that tennis was an excellent game upon which to broadcast commentary (so many less players to remember, for one thing). One of the early commentators was Colonel R. H. Brand, who held the post of Official Host at the BBC, and was the hearty laugher who led the applause at variety concerts.

It was not a particularly fruitful time for British sport, at least summer sport. Bradman kept giving us terrible hammerings. Americans kept winning the Open. No Englishman had won at Wimbledon since 1909. The last win in the Davis Cup had been in 1912 (when France had been the only other entrant). By 1931 there were 30 competitors, and British interest was stirring mildly, for we had two good young players, in H. W. Austin and F. J. Perry. In the next few years, these names were to become as familiar, even in the stone playgrounds of elementary schools, as Hobbs and Sutcliffe had been a little earlier.

We put Austin first, to begin with. He was a Reptonian with a Cambridge Blue, the kind of background lawn tennis players were expected to have then. Perry was the son of a Labour MP, whose father had in the first place given him a year to see if he could make good at tennis, before starting him on a business career.

In 1931, the first year Austin and Perry played the singles together, Britain beat Monaco, Belgium, South Africa, Japan, all 5-0, and then Czechoslovakia (4-1 in Prague) to win the European Zone. They then won the Inter-Zone final against America in Paris, 3-2. As America had Wood and Shields, the two Wimbledon finalists that year, this was a surprise. They went down to France in the Challenge Round, but not by much — Perry took Cochet to four tough sets in the final single.


Austin : beat Wimbledon champions in Davis Cup.

The doubles pair in this run was usually Perry and G. P. Hughes, though because of the need to give Perry an occasional rest, C. H. Kingsley sometimes took his place. Hughes was a fine doubles player, and a key to Britain's successes in these years. His cup record would read better if he had been more fortunate in his partners. Even Perry, when he played, was not ideal. He did not have the temperament for the doubles game. But Hughes always made sure that the opposition had to work for their win, and were a little bit more tired on the last day if, as often happened, one or both of them were involved in the closing singles.

Of the famous French "Four Musketeers" Lacoste had retired, and Cochet, Borotra and Brugnon were getting on, so Britain had high hopes for 1932. But they were disappointed. There was a 5-0 win over Romania, with H. F. David playing the second singles, and then a 4-1 win over Poland, when H. G. N. Lee took over from David. Austin was back for the next match against Germany, in Berlin. He had reached the Wimbledon final that year, and perhaps was exhausted by the effort. He lost both his singles, and Perry lost one as well, so it was a 2-3 defeat. Germany were knocked out by America, and France held America off, chiefly by an astonishing win by Borotra over Vines, the Wimbledon champion. But the combined age of the French team was now more than 100, so there was still plenty for everyone else to play for in 1933.

Britain won 4-1 in Barcelona, 5-0 at home against Finland and 4-1 at home against Italy. Czechoslovakia were the next to go, 5-0. The final round of the European Zone, against Australia (you must understand that Australia could, if they wished, enter for the European Zone as the competition was then organized) was played at Wimbledon, and was a tough one. Crawford, the new champion, won both his singles (the second after the tie was settled, against H. G. N. Lee, Britain's reserve) but the young Australian side could win no more. In the inter-zone round America were beaten 4-1, the doubles the only match lost. And then the Challenge Round.

Cochet was still playing singles for France, and Borotra and Brugnon the doubles. The other singles were to be played by a youngster called Merlin, and it was not thought that either Perry or Austin would have much difficulty in beating him. Austin did so quickly, in straight sets. Perry then beat Cochet in a long five-setter, and the cup seemed as good as won. France won the doubles (Lee coming in for Perry) and then Cochet beat Austin in five sets, after being behind most of the way (that was Cochet's habit).

It did not matter, we thought, listening at home to Colonel Brand or H. B. T. Wakelam, or whoever it was: Perry was bound to beat Merlin. So he did, but only after much agony. Merlin took the first set and was twice within a point of the second.

Roper Barrett was not the least important member of this great side. Both Perry and Austin, in very different ways, could be tricky characters to handle (it is an odd thing, to say the least, that both served in the second war in the American forces). Roper Barrett, who had played for Britain when the cup had been previously won, in 1912, needed humour and tact, and provided them in abundance.

Perry was becoming the world's best player, and Austin was established as one of the best half dozen. Perry won Wimbledon for the next three years. Austin never won Wimbledon, though he should have done. He could beat Wimbledon champions in Davis Cup matches, but did not have the physical resources at the end of a hard fortnight.

England held the Cup for the next three years (4—1 against the United States, 5—0 against the United States, 3—2 against Australia). C. R. D. Tuckey joined the side, happily, as partner to Hughes. Then Perry turned professional, and Hughes retired at the same time. Austin was past his best, but won the first match of the 1937 Challenge Round (the fifth year running he had won the opening match). C. E. Hare put up a brave show against the new champion, Budge, but that was all Britain could do. Still, it had been a memorable few years, which was just as well, because since then we have not had all that much to remember.

Alan Gibson

Badminton

Yates joins upper classes

By Richard Streeton

Badminton's first computerized rankings, issued this week by the International federation, put Rudi Hartono (Indonesia), the world champion, at the top of the men's list and Sun-Ai Hwang (South Korea), the All-England champion, as the leading woman. The lists have been based on 13 tournaments, each graded by status and the strength of its entry, from the 1980 world championships last May to the All-England event which ended at Wembley nine days ago.

The federation stress that these initial rankings are regarded as experimental. Adjustments may be made to the grading system in future and they also plan to include a larger number of tournaments from the 1981-82 season onwards.

The launching of a world-wide grand prix series next January is expected to lead to the top players appearing in more open tournaments than they have done in the past. Some of the anomalies in these inaugural rankings should then disappear. The lists will also have more relevance when they are updated at six-monthly [or] quarterly intervals.

Mainly because of his win in t[he] Dutch Open championship, Ni[ck] Yates, a 19-year-old England [in]ternational, is ranked eighth in t[he] world, above both Ray Steve[ns] and Kevin Jolly who are high[er] than him in the English natio[nal] rankings.

The women's list generally [re]flects a more accurate pictu[re] than the men's. It includes fo[ur] Japanese in the leading 12 whi[ch] emphasizes why they are fa[v]ourites to retain the Uber C[up] next month.

MEN: 1, R. Hartono (Indonesia); [illegible] Liem Swie King (Indonesia); 3, [illegible] Pongoh (Indonesia); 4, M. F. Hans[en] (Denmark); 5, Hadiyanto (Indonesia); 6, P. Padukone (India); 7, K. Tjolb[illegible] Sikle (Indonesia); 8, N. Yates (En[g]land); 9, F. Delfs (Denmark); 10, [illegible] Stevens (England); 11, D. Sarif (Indonesia); 12, K. Jolly (England).

WOMEN: 1, Sun-Ai Hwang (Sou[th] Korea); 2, L. Koppen (Denmark); [illegible] Lie Ing Ivana (Indonesia); 4, W. Ver[illegible] waty (Indonesia); 5, A. Toku[illegible] (Japan); 6, S. Kondo (Japan); 7, [illegible] Yuki (Japan); 8, G. Gilks (England); [illegible] W. Carter (Canada); 10, J. Web[illegible] ster (England); 11, Y. Yoneku[illegible] (Japan); 12, Yun Ja Kim (Sou[th] Korea). Other English placings: 14, [illegible] Leadbeater; 17, K. Bridge; 18, [illegible] Troke.

Boxing

Minter to meet Hamsho

Alan Minter, Britain's former world middleweight champion, will go to the United States for his next contest. Micky Duff, his promoter, confirmed yesterday, that Minter will meet the New York based Syrian, Mustapha Hamsho.

Mr Duff said: "I made the match for American promoter Don King and it looks like the fight will go on in Las Vegas, probably at Caesar's Palace in late May or early June."

Hagler, who took the world title from Minter at Wembley last September, will make his second defence in June against Vito Antuofermo, the man whom Minter twice beat last year.

Rugby League

Huyton may be forced to move

By Keith Macklin

Two lesser lights in the football firmament, the non-league sides Southport and Runcorn could make surprise appearances among the names being bandied about for inclusion in next season's second division.

On Thursday there is a meeting involving the impoverished Huyton club, Rugby League officials and representatives of the brewery owning the lease on the Huyton ground. There is more than a possibility that the lease will not be renewed and rather than see Huyton go out of existence, the Rugby League will consider applications from the Southport and Runcorn clubs to house the homeless side.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

THIRD DIVISION: Barnsley v Colchester United; Chesterfield v Swindon Town; Gillingham v Burnley; Huddersfield Town v Exeter City; Hull City v Fulham; Newport County v Walsall (7.15); Sheffield United v Chester.
SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: East Stirling v Berwick Rangers.
WELSH CUP: Semi-final round, first leg: Wrexham v Swansea City.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Banbury v Corby; Barry v Bromsgrove (6.30); Redditch v Bridgend; Stourbridge v Milton Keynes; Trowbridge v Wellingborough. Southern division: Basingstoke v Canterbury; Dartford v Dorchester; Dunstable v Bognor Regis; Gosport v Ashford; Hastings v Hillingdon.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Buxton v Goole; Morecambe v Gateshead.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barking v Hitchin Town; Dulwich Hamlet v Leytonstone & Ilford. First division: Finchley v St Albans; Hampton v Clapton; Hertford Town v Walton & Hersham; Maidenhead United v Bishop's Stortford; Ware v Wembley. Second division: Corinthian Casuals v Egham town.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Alton v Chertsey (6.0); Burnham v Harlow (6.0); Grays Athletic v Haringey Borough; Hoddesdon Town v Basildon; Ruislip Manor v Windsor & Eton (6.0); Uxbridge v Harefield (6.0).
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Semi-final round: Cheshunt v Hayes.
RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Coventry v Cheltenham (7.15); Glamorgan Wanderers v Abertillery (7.0); Newbridge v Neath (6.15).

'ootball

Taylor says he will do everything possible to keep Shilton at Forest

Peter Shilton is staying with ...ngham Forest, Peter Taylor, ... club's assistant manager, said ...terday afternoon. After an hour-...g meeting between Shilton, ...an Clough, the manager, and ...self. Mr Taylor said: "He ...ys at Forest, because he is the ...t goalkeeper in the business.

"He has got some personal ...blems and if it means talking hour after hour to sort them ..., then we will do that. He has ...n very frank with us, but he ...uld have come to us earlier." ...r Clough and Mr Taylor will ...et Shilton again today to discuss ...problems. "We will repeat the ...sions until the situation has ...n resolved for the benefit of ...ngham Forest and Peter Shil-..., in that order," Mr Taylor said. "He hasn't asked for a move ... he is as desperate to put his ...n house in order as much as we ... We felt that it was bad timing ... Shilton to make his outburst, ...ecially because we have got five ...ches of the season left. He will ... in the side for the match ...inst Liverpool on Saturday and ... be a part of our plans for the ...re."

...fter his meeting with the ...agement Shilton said: "I've ... a chance to speak to the boss ... I've got no comment to make ...what was discussed at the meet-... I came here this morning to ... some training and at least I've ...e that. The situation is still a ...e confused."

...owever, when Shilton reported ... training as usual this morning, ... was sticking by his decision on ...day to ask for a move. He ...: "I think Forest have had ...e for money. I don't want ...say too much. I'm here to train with the squad this morning —that's it. I've talked about the situation with my wife and the question of playing on the Continent is an attractive one."

However, Shilton stressed that he does not want to give up his place in the England team. "Whatever happens I still want to play for England. That would be a condition wherever I go. I want to play in the 1982 World Cup", he said. Shilton announced his intentions to quit Forest last night, but added: "I will still turn up for training tomorrow morning."

Two years ago he signed a three and a half year contract with Forest, which guaranteed him £100,000 plus bonuses. At the time he turned down a move to the American side, Washington Diplomats.

Dave Swindlehurst, the Derby County striker, will be heavily fined by his club, because of his sending off at Shrewsbury last weekend. County's manager, Colin Addison, said yesterday: "Dave butted a fellow professional footballer and that is something I am not prepared to tolerate."

Derby's England international centre half, Roy McFarland, is expected to settle his future in talks with Mr Addison this week. There has been speculation that McFarland will move into American soccer, when his contract with Derby expires this summer.

Croker plea: The Football Association secretary, Ted Croker, yesterday renewed his call to the Government to plough money back into football. Mr Croker, speaking in London complained about the £130m which will be paid this year by the pools companies into the exchequer. He claimed that both parties in opposition had supported the idea that pools money should be given back to the sport. But he added: "Once they get into power they change their minds."

Lyall charged for 'insults'

John Lyall, the manager of West Ham, has been charged by the Football Association as a result of his outburst at the end of the drawn League Cup final against Liverpool at Wembley on March 14.

Mr Lyall, who was involved in an angry exchange with the referee, Clive Thomas, has not been accused of bringing the game into disrepute. Instead, under another part of rule 35a, he will face the lesser charge of "insulting and improper behaviour".

Mr Lyall has seven days in which to decide whether to ask for a personal hearing, and is almost certain to want to appear to defend his name. He disputes Mr Thomas's version of their argument as the players were leaving the field after extra time. Mr Thomas said that Lyall, who had to be restrained by West Ham's striker, David Cross, called him a cheat.

Mr Lyall, angered after Liverpool nearly won the cup with a disputed goal, which was only cancelled out by a last-minute penalty, claims he told Thomas that he "felt cheated".

Cologne arrive without their star players

Ipswich Town's Dutch international midfield player Frans Thijssen is hoping to be fit for tomorrow's Uefa Cup semi-final first leg tie against the FC Cologne at Portman Road.

Thijssen missed Saturday's defeat at West Bromwich Albion because of a recurrence of hamstring trouble and there were fears at the weekend that he might be unavailable for two or three weeks. Yesterday, however, Thijssen was able to train and was feeling happier about life.

"I was able to run flat out and the hamstring feels much better. I shall continue to have treatment and hope there is no reaction. I certainly feel at the moment I have a good chance of playing on Wednesday", the Dutch player said.

Paul Mariner, who also missed the West Bromwich match seems certain to play, although he did not join in training. Mariner has been troubled by a bruised heel he picked up playing for England and Kevin Beattie, who has not played a first team match for five weeks, could be in line for a return in at least one of this week's semi-finals. Beattie's troublesome right knee is much improved but it remains to be seen whether Bobby Robson, the manager, picks him against Cologne or saves him for the FA Cup semi-final against Manchester City on Saturday. City are anxious to have Gow in their side for the first time for five weeks. "It's significant that we have not won since he has been missing from the team", the manager, John Bond, said.

Cologne arrived at Heathrow airport yesterday without their injured internationals, Rainer Bonhof and Herbert Zimmermann. "With the best will in the world, I just don't know who I should put in, Cologne's Dutch coach, Rinus Michels, said.

A groin injury ruled out Bonhof, the team captain, and a thigh strain put paid to Zimmermann's chances. But the big defender, Gerd Strack, suffering from a bruised neck, was in the party and will train today to see if he is fit to play. Strack has been plagued by misfortune since his injury a fortnight ago. His one-year-old daughter fell down the stairs at home and fractured her skull last Friday and on his way back from the hospital the player was involved in a car accident.

But Cologne's England international forward, Tony Woodcock, will be available, although he was sent off on Saturday for a retaliatory foul. Cologne are on a bonus of £2,150 a man to beat Ipswich.

Liverpool's West German opponents, Bayern Munich, are expected today for their European Cup semi-final first leg at Anfield. With Karl-Heinz Rummenigge in their line-up and Paul Breitner, Liverpool will need as many of their injured stars on duty as possible.

Ray Kennedy has made good progress after missing Friday's game against Stoke with a knee injury. Graeme Souness, who scored three goals in the last round, has not yet resumed training after missing two games with back trouble. David Johnson, back in light training after missing four games with hamstring trouble, is also unlikely to return.

Gary Brooke, Tottenham's young midfield player, is expected to be fit for Saturday's FA Cup semi-final against Wolverhampton Wanderers at Hillsborough. But the manager, Keith Burkinshaw is still undecided whether to stick with Brooke or give the Argentine Ricardo Villa his first full game since the third round against Queen's Park Rangers.

Wolves should know today whether the winger, Mel Eves, will be fit. He went off early at Sunderland with a damaged muscle fibres in his back

Bonhof: ruled out.

Bettega accused

Rome, April 6.—Roberto Bettega, Juventus's international footballer, is to face a disciplinary commission on a charge of violating the principles of fairness and integrity in sport. The allegation concerns a match between Juventus and Perouse on March 22. Witnesses claim that Bettega asked two players on the opposing team to help him score. —Agence France-Presse.

...cing

Storm Bird outlook is not quite so bleak

Michael Seely

...etter news has come from Bally-...le concerning the well-being of ...m Bird, the winter favourite ... the 2,000 Guineas and Derby. ...cent O'Brien said that his ...rinary surgeon had examined ... Northern Dancer colt yester-...

The vet was pleased with ...m Bird and considers that he ...aking satisfactory progress and ...onding to treatment. The ...e-year-old was slightly lame in ... left hind fetlock joint after ...ing last week. It was a direct ...y and not a strain. Storm Bird ... some walking exercise this ...ing, but no decision about ...e running plans will be made ... next week."

... the leading bookmakers have ...wed Storm Bird from their ...ng on the 2,000 Guineas. To-...i-Mou, who finished runner-up ...Storm Bird in last autumn's ...hurst Stakes, is now top-...ed at 5—2 with Ladbrokes.

... far as the 1,000 Guineas is ...erned all the money recently ... been for Fairy Footsteps. ...ry Cecil's Mill Reef filly has ... been seen in public since ...ing the Waterford Candelabra ...es at Goodwood last August. ...wever, our Newmarket corre-...dent says that Fairy Footsteps ... been striding out with great ... on the heath. She is now clear ...rite for the first of the fillies' ...ics, the longest price on offer ... the 6-1 with the Tote. Both ...i and Marwell have drifted in ...arket.

...e memory of one of last ...n's biggest unsuccessful gam-... was revived at Nottingham ...rday when Al Kuwait was ...led the Call Boy Handicap ...he disqualification of Salt-.... Al Kuwait started a short-...d favourite for last season's Cesarewitch, but finished unplaced behind Popsi's Joy.

Yesterday Al Kuwait was looking all over the winner two furlongs from home, but the picture changed when Anthony McGlone sent Salthouse into the lead. Al Kuwait finished second but his jockey, Pat Eddery, lodged an objection on the grounds of "taking my ground" in the last furlong. The objection was sustained and the placings of the first two reversed.

McGlone said afterwards: "I knew I would be disqualified as Salthouse had ducked to the left and to the right in the last furlong". John Sutcliffe, the winning trainer said that Al Kuwait would run at Newmarket next week and then might be aimed at the Chester Cup.

McGlone has been riding extremely well this spring. Half an hour earlier Richard Hannon's 18-year-old apprentice had been seen to great advantage when driving Sporting Covergirl past Longcliffe in the last strides of the Coronach Handicap. This victory gave McGlone his third and Neville Callaghan his sixth success of the season.

Another feature was that of Hannon gaining his second win of 1981 when Basil Boy and Ray Cochrane won the Sunstar Maiden Stakes. Clive Brittain who had his second victory of the campaign when Mouhannel and Willie Carson romped home by seven lengths in the first division of the Manna Maiden Stakes.

The second division of this race fell to Winart, who proved far too strong to the odds-on favourite, Hillsdown Lad. The winning trainer Gavin Prichard-Gordon was surprised by this result. "Winart has been working well at home but I never thought he would be good enough to beat Hillsdown Lad".

Ukraine Girl to step lively

...Desmond Stoneham
...h Racing Correspondent
..., April 6

... Prix Imprudence and Prix ...l, which will both be run ... seven furlongs at Maisons-...ee tomorrow, are two tradi-... French trials for the 1,000 ...000 Guineas. A year ago ... won the Djebel and went ... take the 2,000 Guineas at ...rket, only to be disqualified ...terfering with Posse three ...s from the line. There is ... of the class of Njreyev in ...ar's race and the Impru-... also lacks a confirmed star ...ine up.

...k no further than Ukraine ... the Imprudence, although ...a and Marie du Mont should ...n well. Ukraine Girl won the group three Prix d'Aumale last September and pulled too hard before dropping out of contention in the subsequent Prix Marcel Boussac. Enigma is unbeaten in two small races and Marie du Mont ran an excellent race when trying to give weight to Bernica and Phydilla in the Prix du Calvados at Deauville last August.

Diamond Prospect is my selection for the Djebel and he may come to Newmarket if all goes well tomorrow. The danger could be Spoleto and Running Back. Last August, Diamond Prospect beat the useful Bardenac in the Prix des Roches Noires and then went on to chase Cresta Rider, the impressive winner of yesterday's Prix de Fontainebleau, home in the group two Critèrium de Maisons-Laffitte.

Newmarket stable that is bursting with talent—equine and human

A Stoute fellow bound for the top

Stoute: singing of a bright future.

Michael Stoute has finished second, third and fourth in the trainers' table in the past three years. In 1980 he topped the 100 mark for the first time, saddling 54 winners of 101 races worth over £370,000. And looking at his horses at Newmarket recently it is hard not to think that another bumper season lies in store for this talented and dedicated man, who took out a licence to train only eight years ago.

Stoute is too much of a realist not to know what can happen to the best laid plans of mice and men. But at the moment both his colts and fillies appear forward in condition and are moving well in their home work. The spring meeting at Newbury and Newmarket's Craven fixture will be the first testing ground for Stoute as well as for our other leading trainers.

Watching Stoute's potential stars quickening in smooth style on the gallops on Waterhall last week it was impossible not to share the enthusiasm of the trainer and his hardworking staff. Not that Stoute says much. But the way in which he galloped away on his grey hack singing loudly to himself was evidence enough of his feelings.

Dalsaan and Hard Fought form the spearhead of the trainer's strong team of older horses. Dalsaan was so impressive when sprinting home by 20 lengths at Kempton last summer that the Aga Khan's colt started at odds on to beat Posse and Final Straw in the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot. Dalsaan finished fourth 2½ lengths behind Posse but the stable are convinced that this was not the favourite's true running. The Cold Shield Windows Trophy at Haydock on May 2 and Newbury's Locking Stakes will form Dalsaan's early season programme.

Perhaps Hard Fought's best performance last season was when running Known Fact to a neck in the Waterford Crystal Mile at Goodwood, in receipt of 5lb. Although Hard Fought is by Habitat, Brook Holliday's four-year-old is out of Ambrosia, whose pedigree is full of stout, staying blood. The trainer plans to run Hard Fought in the nine furlong Earl of Sefton Stakes at the Craven meeting to test the colt's stamina before deciding on his future programme.

As far as the 1,000 Guineas is concerned Stoute has two leading candidates for the first of the fillies' classics in Marwell and Exclusively Raised. Marwell showed blinding speed in her five victories as a two-year-old and if she can last out the Rowley Mile, Lord Seymour's full sister is going to take some beating.

Marwell will run in the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury if the ground is suitable, otherwise she will go to Newmarket without a preliminary race. Exclusively Raised, a tough, grey American-bred filly will take on Fairy Footsteps and Tolmi in the Nell Gwyn Stakes at the Craven meeting. The stable's only possible runner in the 2,000 Guineas could be Shasavaan. The Aga Khan's colt is strongly fancied to win next week's Free Handicap.

Shergar and Centurius are the stable's Derby hopes. Another of the Aga Khan's breed, Shergar, is by Great Nephew who is the sire of Grundy and Mrs Penny as well as other good horses. Only lightly raced as a two-year-old, Shergar followed up an easy victory in a maiden race at Newbury with a creditable second to Beldale Flutter in the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster.

Centurius is also sired by Great Nephew. He first hit the headlines when Jim McCaughey gave 270,000 guineas for Grundy's full brother at the 1979 Houghton Sales. Centurius had only three races, looking most impressive in his victory in the Mornington Stakes at Ascot, but disappointing badly when finishing last behind Storm Bird in the Dewhurst Stakes.

Shergar will be showing his paces in Sandown's Classic Trial and then perhaps in the Chester Vase. Centurius goes for Epsom's Blue Riband Trial followed by a tilt at the Mecca-Dante Stakes at York.

Michael Seely

Nottingham programme

2.0 OLD TRAFFORD STAKES (2-y-o Maiden Fillies: £897: 5f)

3		Colorwood Silk, G. Balding, 8-11	W. Higgins	4
5		Floral Elegance, Mrs C. Reavey, 8-11	T. Rogers	2
6	2	Greenwood Lady, G. Hunter, 8-11	P. Cook	9
7		Janivy, W. Haigh, 8-11	N. Day	10
9		Lady Auctioneer, R. Hannon, 8-11	Pat Eddery	8
10	2	Martini Time, D. Morley, 8-11	B. Rouse	7
11		Martintide, W. H-Bass, 8-11	T. Ives	5
12		Mrs Love It, J. Czerpak, 8-11	M. Birch	6
15	0	Saucy Twinkle, P. Haslam, 8-11	B. Jago	1
16		Spanish Fury, M. Ryan, 8-11	P. D'Arcy	3
18		Transonic, J. Hardy, 8-11	J. Matthias	11

4-5 Greenwood Lady, 2-1 Martini Time, 6-1 Martintide, 8-1 Lady Auctioneer, 12-1 Colorwood Silk, 16-1 others.

2.30 TAVERN HANDICAP (3-y-o Selling: £578: 1¼m)

1	00400-0	Palm the Ace, R. Hoad, 9-7	W. Newnes	4
2	000010-	Reliance News (D), N. Callaghan, 9-7	L. Piggott	7
3	000342-	Radical Rethink, W. Musson, 9-7	B. Rouse	3
4	02230-0	Billie Gibb (B), Mrs C. Reavey, 9-6	T. Rogers	8
5	0000-	Small Hope Bay, S. Holland, 9-3	T. Ives	1
6	000-0	Mr Money Bags, R. Morris, 9-3	F. Morris	2
10	40000-0	Top Reef, J. Tierney, 8-9	Paul Eddery	10
11	000000-	Accountability, R. Hollinshead, 8-9	S. Perks	6
12	200300-	Campton, J. Sutcliffe, 8-9	Pat Eddery	5
15	0000-01	Wylon Bar, A. Smith, 8-12	M. Wigham	9

15-8 Campton, 7-2 Reliance News, 9-2 Wylon Bar, 7-1 Billie Gibb, 8-1 Radical Rethink, 16-1 Accountability, 20-1 others.

3.0 LORDS HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,320: 5f)

1	00-3000	Hab Dancer, R. Armstrong, 9-7	L. Piggott	5
2	0002-0	Slowmarket, H. Wragg, 9-6	S. Parr	9
5	1021-0	Donatella (D), W. Wharton, 8-13	W. Wharton	6
6	0213-4	Camisite, W. O'Gorman, 8-11	T. Ives	13
9	204220-	Cumulus, Thomson Jones, 8-5	P. Cook	4
11	111310-	Crosby Triangle (CD), P. Haslam, 8-1	R. Hodgson	1
12	330310-	Southoe Bell (CD), D. Thom, 7-13	J. Lowe	8
13	001040-	Hurtwood Lass, A. Balding, 7-8	S. Salmon	3
14	400204-	Mull of Kintyre (D), P. Haslam, 7-8	C. Leonard	11
16	00000-	Makin Music, F. Dever, 7-7	K. Darley	7
17	0040-2	Humble Blue, G. Fletcher, 7-7	R. Fox	12
18	400000-	Mad Moments, G. Blum, 7-7	M. Hills	10
19	000-	Third Generation, H. Collingridge, 7-7	R. Still	2

5-1 Camisite, 4-1 Humble Blue, 9-2 Donatella, 13-2 Crosby Triangle, 8-1 Hab Dancer, 10-1 Slowmarket, 12-1 Cumulus, 14-1 Southoe Bell, 16-1 others.

3.30 HEADINGLEY STAKES (3-y-o: £1,164: 6f)

3	1240-2	Welham Green (D), G. Harwood, 9-6	G. Starkey	8
4	22120-	Chief Admiral (D), S. Norton, 9-1	J. Lowe	7
5	03-1	Disco, (D, B), P. Walwyn, 9-1	J. Mercer	6
6	10-	Ganimede, L. Cumani, 9-1	L. Piggott	2
7	01400-	Hi There, H. Candy, 8-12	P. Waldron	13
8	01300-0	Sospirae (D), W. Guest, 8-12	R. Cochrane	4
10	00-	Lord Laff, G. Lewis, 8-10	G. Ramshaw	12
12	0204-	Rawlinson End, D. Laing, 8-10	J. Reid	10
15	00-	The Vagrant, G. Lewis, 8-10	G. Sexton	5
16	40042-	Charlie's Song, J. Holt, 8-7	R. Weaver	11
18	0-	Generoso, J. W. Watts, 8-7	E. Hide	1
20		Lyubianka, A. Pitt, 8-7	I. Jenkinson	3
21	02200-	Rivers Edge, R. Stubbs, 8-7	M. Fry	9

11-4 Disco, 7-2 Welham Green, 4-1 Ganimede, 7-1 Hi There, 8-1 Chief Admiral, 12-1 Sospirae, 14-1 Generoso, 16-1 Rawlinson End, 20-1 others.

4.0 TRENT BRIDGE HANDICAP (£1,400: 2m)

1	000211-	Sir Gordon, D. Nicholson, 4-10-0	Pat Eddery	12
2	323143-	Nation Wide (D), H. Wragg, 8-9-7	S. Parr	13
3	21040-1	Ilmaz, D. Morley, 5-9-7	B. Rouse	10
4	21/1034-	Preiko (D), J. FitzGerald, 6-9-4	E. Hide	4
6	404021/	Rig Force (B), B. Richmond, 5-9-1	D. Nicholls	18
7	22/000-3	Irish Poet (C), G. Huffer, 7-8-10	B. Crossley	17
8	000000-	Lady Mantegna, D. Laing, 4-8-6	J. Reid	8
9	44042-0	Padski, R. Hollinshead, 8-8-5	Paul Eddery	1
10	00400-0	Young Robin, N. Crump, 4-8-3	O. Gray	11
11	040/000-	Grid (B), M. H. Easterby, 6-8-3	M. Birch	5
12	000004-	Quistador, M. Chapman, 5-8-1	L. Piggott	2
13	000000-	Bellino, W. Musson, 4-7-13	R. Fox	3
15	0/300-	Baltic Love, G. Blum, 9-7-12	M. Rimmer	15
16	000200/	Gay Twenties, R. Carter, 7-7-11	W. Newnes	9
18	200p/30-	William the First, A. W. Jones, 6-7-9	M. Thomas	14
19	030, 003-	Passerine (D), C. Spares, 7-7-9	J. Lowe	6
20	023300-	Fighting Fiddler, W. Charles, 6-7-8	P. Robinson	16
22	000300-	Jubilee Dancer, K. Bridgwater, 5-7-7	K. Leason	7

5-2 Ilmaz, 4-1 Sir Gordon, 5-1 Preiko, 6-1 Nation Wide, 7-1 Irish Poet, 10-1 Padski, 16-1 Quistador, 20-1 Grid, 25-1 others.

4.30 OVAL STAKES (Div I: 3-y-o Maidens: £897: 1¼m)

2	00220-	Crackaway, W. Wharton, 9-0	W. Wharton	11
3	0-	Harescaugh, N. Vigors, 9-0	R. Curant	3
5	30-	Rawalpindi, G. Harwood, 9-0	G. Starkey	6
7	0-0	Royal Dragoon, M. Ryan, 9-0	P. D'Arcy	9
9	0-	Tofique, C. Nelson, 9-0	T. Rogers	1
11	0000-	Ashore, H. Candy, 8-11	J. McLean 7	2
16	0-3	Great Light, R. J. Williams, 8-11	Pat Eddery	10
19	00-	Little Darling, M. Ryan, 8-11	P. Young	7
20	000-	New Continent, E. Eldin, 8-11	P. Madden	4
21	0-	Rugby Excavation, J. Czerpak, 8-11	M. Birch	5
28		Tant Pis, J. W. Watts, 8-11	E. Hide	8

6-4 Great Light, 5-2 Rawalpindi, 7-2 Crackaway, 6-1 Tant Pis, 12-1 Tofique, 14-1 others.

5.0 OVAL STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o Maidens: £897: 1¼m)

4	400-	Legal Gambol, B. Hills, 9-0	S. Cauthen	11
6	0000-	Royal Bounty, N. Vigors, 9-0	B. Raymond	9
8	00-	Sigir, L. Cumani, 9-0	P. Cook	1
10	00-	Alexander Novsky, W. Blanshard, 8-11	W. Higgins	6
12	0000-	But Beautiful, G. Fletcher, 8-11	J. Higgins	3
15	0-0	Galloa, M. Ryan, 8-11	P. Robinson	10
18	00000-0	Lawnswood Miss, R. Hollinshead, 8-11	S. Perks	7
21	000-	Nimbo, N. Callaghan, 8-11	L. Piggott	5
23	0-4	Rubina Park, M. Ryan, 8-11	W. Carson	4
27	000-	Takeafence, R. Cochrane, 8-11	—	8
29	0-	Undismayed, W. Holden, 8-11	J. Seagrave	2

7-4 Rubina Park, 9-4 Sigir, 3-1 Legal Gambol, 7-1 Nimbo, 12-1 Takeafence, 16-1 others.

Nottingham selections

By Michael Seely

2.0 GREENWOOD LADY is specially recommended. 2.30 Campton. 3.0 Camisite. 3.30 Welham Green. 4.0 Ilmaz. 4.30 Great Light. 5.0 Rubina Park.

Sedgefield

...reford NH

Nottingham results

Kelso NH

PUBLIC NOTICES

ELECTION OF DENTISTS TO THE GENERAL DENTAL COUNCIL UNDER THE DENTISTS ACT, 1957

Constituency — Dentists whose addresses in the dentists register are in ENGLAND the ISLE OF MAN or the CHANNEL ISLANDS.

1. Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Dentists Act, 1957, an election of seven members to the General Dental Council to represent the above constituency is about to be held.
2. Every registered dentist is entitled to be nominated as a candidate.
3. Any person entitled to vote in the constituency may take part in the nomination of any number of candidates not exceeding the number to be elected.
4. Each candidate must be nominated separately by the signatures of not fewer than twelve dentists in the above constituency, on not more than two nomination papers to be obtained from the Returning Officer; and every nomination paper shall contain the name, registered address and title to registration both of the candidate and of the nominators, together with a declaration signed by the candidate that he consents to be nominated and will accept office if duly elected.
5. The nomination paper or papers for each candidate must be delivered by hand or by registered post to the Returning Officer on or before the sixth day of May, 1981.
6. A nomination in respect of which any of these rules has not been complied with will be invalid.

NORMAN DAVIES
Returning Officer
Office of the General Dental Council, 37 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8DQ
Dated 7 April, 1981.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of GRETANGRANGE Limited and In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 20th day of May, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, Ian Peter Phillips, F.C.A., of Bernard Phillips & Co., New Cavendish House, 18 Maltravers St., W.C.2, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 1st day of April, 1981.

I. P. PHILLIPS, K. D. GOODMAN, Liquidators.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS




ROTTERDAMSCH BELEGGINGSCONSORTIUM N.V.

With reference to the announcement dated 1st April 1981, concerning the cash dividend for the financial year 1980 on Sub-shares registered in the name of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, the rate of exchange for the payment of this dividend is Fls. 5.2375 = £1.00.

UNITED KINGDOM RESIDENTS

The gross dividend is £0.21002387 per Sub-share and is subject to the following deductions:—

15% Dutch Tax	= £0.03150358 per Sub-share
15% U.K. Tax	= £0.03150358 per Sub-share
Exchange and M.N. Comm.	= £0.00284566 per Sub-share
Net Payment	= £0.14417105 per Sub-share

NON RESIDENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Where 25% Dutch Tax is applicable, the following deductions apply:—

25% Dutch Tax	= £0.05250597 per Sub-share
30% U.K. Tax on net dividend (when applicable)	= £0.04725537 per Sub-share
Exchange and M.N. Comm.	= £0.00284566 per Sub-share
Net Payment	= £0.10741687 per Sub-share

Where 15% Dutch Tax is applicable the calculations are as for United Kingdom Residents, but relief from United Kingdom tax is immediately obtained provided that the appropriate Inland Revenue Affidavit is lodged with the claim.

The memory man, still happily setting the record straight

Sir Harold Wilson bounces back on the coup that never was... and the obsessions of Tony Benn

Sir Harold Wilson bounced back into the headlines last week after a spate of ill health. He was on form, setting the record straight about Lord Louis Mountbatten and the "Fleet Street coup": "I didn't hear about it until much later", he told me.

The return was in one of Sir Harold's favourite guises: the memory man of the music hall who will answer random challenges from the audience, beginning, where possible, with the phrase: "It was at the Blackpool Conference in 1959...."

His memory is one of the best known aspects of his personality. The intimacies of Sir Harold's life are better known than those of any individual outside the Royal Family. His pipe, his wife Mary, his dry Yorkshire wit played on a flat accent, his dog Paddy, his secret preference for brandy and cigars, his bungalow in the Scillies, all contribute to the Wilson image.

There is nothing artificial about his public face, although some of his ways are studied and, by now, he does little unwittingly. He drops in lines about putting money behind the clock on the mantelpiece or shopping at the Co-op which have seldom had much to do with his life style. Yet, for all his vanities, he is held in affection like an irritating but long-lasting character in a television soap opera, the Ena Sharples of Downing Street.

His passion for keeping a true record of events is best illustrated in his aching tomes about his two administrations, *The Labour Government* 1964-70 and *Final Term: the Labour Government* 1974-76. More evidence is published next month in *The Chariot of Israel*—the title came from his wife, a clergyman's daughter—a dry, thorough appraisal of the relations between Britain, America and Israel. (Sir Harold is safest on personal memories. A. J. P. Taylor's review of *The Governance of Britain* simply listed the factual errors.)

"I planned the Israel book while writing the boring narrative of the last Number 10 book, *Final Term*," said Sir Harold. "I have always been interested in Israel and, as Abba Eban will tell you, I am considered one of its best friends. I have a lot of knowledge about the Six Day War which hasn't been published before."

Sir Harold's memory was largely inherited from his father. "He could multiply any two numbers in seconds. That is how I met Mary. I was doing what is now called A levels, cramming *Hamlet* and *Dr Faustus*. My father said he could multiply any two numbers and another man had bet five bob that he couldn't. I was going along to see fair play.

"We passed a tennis court on the way and I saw this pretty girl playing tennis—it was Mary—and I thought, what is life all about, Shakespeare and Faustus or pretty girls playing tennis? The following Saturday I hung up my running spikes and bought a tennis racquet. A week later I told Mary that I was going to marry her and become an MP. She laughed and has said hundreds of times since that if she had believed me she would never have married me."

Young Harold Wilson, armed with his father's quick brain, made precocious progress through local state schools in Huddersfield and the Wirral, achieving a place to Jesus College, Oxford, where he achieved the highest first class degree in PPE of his year. A don at 21, he soon left the academic life.

"My father had just lost his job and so I wrote to the editor of *The Manchester Guardian*. They wanted me to come in and move on to writing leaders. But in the meantime I was offered a post with Beveridge on his staff and Crozier (the *Guardian* editor) wrote back saying, by all means join Beveridge for a couple of years. You will be worth that much more to *The Guardian*. But I never did go back. The war started two years later."

And so he became a civil servant in the wartime coalition, working on the foundations of the welfare state. In 1945, he was elected Labour MP for Ormskirk. He has sat in the House of Commons—since 1950 for Huyton—ever since, and seldom off the front benches.

His rise was swift, from being made President of the Board of Trade and a Privy Councillor by Attlee in 1947, when he was 31, to his election as Labour leader on Hugh Gaitskell's death in 1963. In October 1964 a slim victory over Sir Alec Douglas-Home was the beginning of a period of British politics dominated by his presence and his years in office have made him the longest serving peacetime Prime Minister this century.

In 1976 his resignation came as a surprise and a source of great speculation. "Having lost, I wanted to get back anyway and then I wanted to retire on my 60th birthday, which I did, almost to the day, except in that week there were by-elections, so I stayed until the week after.

"It was a very closely guarded secret. About four people knew: me, Mary, Lady Falkender, who was really rather against it, and Mr Speaker. I had told Mr Speaker the October before and when, in the House, there was some murmuring at the announcement, I said to Mr Speaker 'as I told you some time ago' and he agreed. *Hansard* spotted it and recorded him agreeing."

As ever, Sir Harold likes to keep the record straight. Now, heading for retirement at the next election—he was 64 last month—he looks back on his 13 turbulent years as leader of the Labour Party without recrimination.

Relieved from the pressures of power, he has lost the urgent suspicion which often seemed to guide his actions. Sir Harold is generous and unguarded, quite happy to talk over old times. He has even forgiven the press, who gave him a rougher ride than any Prime Minister before him might have had the right to expect.

The harsh press criticism was only one element which was hostile to his efforts. Other forces may again prove obstructive to Labour. "The fixed currency, above all, is the way that they prevent a Labour government from carrying out its programme. The Bank of England or the Treasury say, if you do this there will be a run on sterling. Of course, the people who made the dash to freedom away from this Treasury orthodoxy were Ted Heath and Barber. At that time it was against the rules and I doubt whether a Labour government would have been allowed to do it.

"If the Conservatives are thought likely to lose the next election, there would be a run on the pound in the wake of Michael Foot's government. They would think that Michael didn't know anything about the exchange rate. That is why Peter Shore is so important, saying the right things and doing the right things. We are seen as almost an orthodox party in comparison with what the Conservatives have done and are doing".

Sir Harold kept the party together for 13 years, a feat which today sounds less the modest boast it seemed when he resigned in 1976. Now he is unhappy about the state of the party and the formation of the Social Democrats.

"It stems from the loss of the election and the growth of the 'cowboys'. The Labour Party has got out of the way of losing elections. We are now the natural party of government. I had it, of course, in 1970-74 when we had carelessly lost an election.

"I have watched the last three conferences on television and the spectators see more. What appalled me were those clenched fists at the end. This is a relatively new manifestation, driving people from the party. The dear old ladies who write the addresses at election time, they are the ones to worry about. Some of them have been driven out in tears.

"These cowboys are absolute Trots. The number of Communists in the party is very small but the Trots are much more sinister. They are negative and have no policy. There is a fairly high number of—not intellectuals but let's say intelligentsia element there, stemming not least from the growth of sociology as a discipline in the universities."



He damns Mr Tony Benn with faint praise. "He was a very good Postmaster General, all those coloured stamps, still going well. Tony's obsessed with shop stewards. That is why he liked planning agreements, because they would be run by shop stewards.

"We were having a shadow cabinet meeting and I asked for any other business. There was a deep sigh because we knew Tony would have something. And he said, I have just attended a meeting of the Bristol Aerospace workers, I think it was, and they just passed a resolution saying that they should have the right to sack the management at a week's notice. I said, why should they have a week? Why not give them just a weekend to clear out their lockers? I have always said about Tony that he immatures with age."

Sir Harold kept the Labour Party together for 13 years —now he is unhappy about the 'cowboys' with clenched fists . .

(Sir Harold's reply is an example of his dead-pan humour which has so perplexed po-faced investigative reporters enquiring about spies and conspiracies. "The trouble with Penrose and Courtiour is that they no sense of humour. I would say things as a joke and they took me seriously.")

What of the Social Democrats? "There is a touch of arrogance about Mr Rodgers and Dr Owen. Who was it who said, I wish I was as sure of anything as they are of everything? They are quite able. They were both ministers of state, but I thought that they reached their peak in my time. I would not have made David Owen Foreign Secretary, nor Bill Rodgers Minister of Transport.

"Shirley's a great loss. I do not think that she has got over the shattering effect of losing that seat. She's easily the best of them. What I regret is that some of our best moderates have hived off to the Owen-Rodgers lot."

Most of Sir Harold's energy in recent months has been devoted to his committee on the City which came out against public intervention in banking and insurance. And he has been ill. "Now I am 100 per cent. I had three operations, quite common ones. I was at St Mark's, Islington, and it is the best hospital for it. National Health, of course."

At the next election he will stand down in favour of "the two or three in my constituency who would make first rate MPs". Then he will start on his autobiography.

And when he leaves the House, will he accept an honour? Sir Harold smiled. "I've got one." The Queen made him a Knight of the Garter, a personal honour, in 1976, as a mark of her affection for him.

Nicholas Wapshott

The Chariot of Israel *will be published jointly by Weidenfeld and Nicolson and Michael Joseph on May 5, price £14.95.*

Hospital no plac[e] for a Preside[nt] aged 7[0]

President Reagan's doctor a nail-biting time as lo their patient stays in the (Washington Hospital, hospital bed is a highly d ous place for a man of 7

Top of the risks that h is pulmonary embolism (age of the lung arteries by clots) which accounts fo to three per cent of all in hospital. The risks ar because of the effect an has on the blood. Severe ing makes the blood stickier so they clot more Furthermore the ine immobility of the patie covering from surgery the blood stagnate in the

Studies show that aroun third of all patients forn in their leg vein in the immediately after su These blood clots usually no symptoms or only min comfort but they are the of the danger: if the cl comes detached from th of the vein it will be swe the bloodstream to the and on into the lungs.

Despite a whole batte treatment designed to the risk of thrombosis surgery it remains an imp hazard, especially into the to 10 days after operatio the risk rises with age.

The President has two big pluses in his favour. He take a lot of exercise and is physicall fit and young for his years . .

The second inescapable ard of a stay in hospital fection. So many patien any hospital have infe that the wards, corridors atmosphere can all too become contaminated micro-organisms, many which are resistant to the mon antibiotics.

Hospital air conditi systems and water su become infected with bac such as the notorious cau legionnaire's disease.

Around one patient in 20 either a lung infection bladder infection while hospital. Many more sur patients get wound infec which not only delay he but also increase the ris the wound opening up a with further haemorrhage.

The risks of thrombosis infection do not apply eq to all patients. These co cations are more common i elderly—a point against President—but he is not in really high risk groups w include patients with ca those who have had transp surgery and indeed anyone a long illness.

The President has two pluses in his favour. He t a lot of exercise, which k the heart and lungs in g condition and protects ag thrombosis, and he is physic fit and young for his ye And every surgeon prefer young 70-year-old to an eld man of 55.

Overall the chances of s post-operative disaster small enough for the indivi to take a fatalistic attitude; in Mr Reagan's own idiom, fate will depend on whet the bullet that hit him had name on it.

Dr Tony Sm[ith]
Medical Correspond[ent]

Bernard Levin

Free–and a bit too easy

Not long ago I wrote a column about a letter, published in *The Guardian*, from a young graduate who had been unable to find a job and who said that he would favourably consider being part of the Eastern block if it would give him work; meanwhile he was existing, he told us, on £18.50 a week.

My point was simple: it was that apart from the hideous poverty in which most of the subject peoples of the Soviet Empire live, his attitude was profoundly, and even shamefully, mistaken, since freedom was not something to be sold for material comfort. And I have been more than usually interested in the reaction of my readers to what I wrote.

Here I must reveal that *The Times* has long followed the most courteous practice of showing letters sent for publication to the member of the editorial staff whose words elicited the reply—that is, if the letter is specifically commenting on something written in the paper, rather than raising some new subject or commenting on public affairs in general; naturally, this custom does not give the journalist concerned any role in the decision on whether the letter is to be published. I have always found it a most useful practice; letters commenting on what I have written frequently differ significantly in tone and attitude according to whether they are sent to me direct or to the Editor for favour of publication (it is an axiom among the cynical and ink-stained wretches of my profession that the letters agreeing with us and praising us are sent privately to us, whereas those denouncing us as scoundrels are invariably sent to the Editor), and by this means I can get far better picture of how my words have been regarded.

I go into this somewhat arcane matter because there have been an exceptionally large number of letters to the Editor arising out of the column in question, and with only a small dissenting minority they have overwhelmingly disagreed with me. They have done so, moreover, on a very narrow range of grounds indeed; the same basic argument was used by almost all the writers. And the theme which ran through them seems to me to be well worth exploring today.

The readers, with very few exceptions, argued that I was wrong to rebuke the young man for his cavalier attitude to freedom, because it was scandalous that he had not been provided by the state with a job at the end of his education, such provision being his unquestionable right and its denial not only a fundamental flaw in our democratic system but a powerful argument in favour of the thesis that it is perfectly acceptable to give up freedom to a regime which will promise a job in return.

Now I love the readers of this newspaper dearly, one and all; but I am obliged to say that I have never read such blood-freezing rubbish in my life.

First, there was desperate confusion in their minds on one crucial point; a less kindly man than myself would say that it was not so much confusion as cant. Again and again (this is also true of the letters I have received myself) the writers argued that our young friend was not free at all, because he didn't have a job. A man without work, to be sure, is unfortunate and inevitably anxious or unhappy; he will certainly be poor (though for this particular young man the incidence of poverty can hardly bear as heavily as on one who has abruptly lost a well-paid job, since he is getting two-thirds of what he would have been getting before as a grant-aided student) and he may rapidly become demoralized (though here again, one who has never had regular paid employment is not going to suffer the creeping despair of a man who knows no other life). But it is more than a semantic confusion to say that such a man, however, much he may suffer, is not *free*; it is also a political and moral confusion.

Freedom is both a positive and a negative state, and in neither mode has it got anything to do with material circumstances. Its negative aspect consists of the absence of restrictions, imposed from without, on the conditions of freedom, which conditions include all those activities which among them enable or assist the individual to control his rulers rather than be controlled by them, together with those which enable or assist him to express himself in all his personal and social relations.

Thus, if we cannot vote our rulers out of office, if we cannot be judged by an impartial and independent justice, if we cannot combine with others to organize politically or industrially, if we cannot write or pray freely, marry whom we want (by mutual agreement, of course), travel whither we wish, know the laws and know them to be consistent, speak our mind, hate our neighbour—if we cannot do all these things and many more like them, we are to that extent unfree. With all these freedoms, of course, there are qualifications. We may hate our neighbour, but we may not burn his house down; we may vote for one party at the polls, but we may not overthrow the ensuing government by force if the rival party wins; we may travel abroad, but we must pay our fare.

Ah, says cant; then if a man cannot afford the fare, he is not free: QED. Not so; freedom, like the gentleman in the song, does not promise us a rose-garden. Suppose we define a man as unfree because he cannot afford the fare to Scotland; *how* then do we define one who can afford the fare to Scotland but not the fare to Venice? Or, if he can afford the fare to Venice, too, is he not unfree while he has to stay in a *pensione* while another man can take a suite at the Gritti? You see, if we allow economic conditions to define freedom, the definition must become purely relative, and then no one is free except the richest man in the world, and even he cannot buy Mount Everest.

Cant, defeated, retires to think, and then comes back with the argument about "basic necessities"; a man can be free without owning a couple of Rembrandts, but he cannot be free if he doesn't own a roof over his head.

But that won't do either. There is nothing that cannot, given sufficient ingenuity on the part of Professor Peter Townsend or Mr Frank Field, MP, be turned into one of the basic necessities of life, without which no family can be considered as leading anything but an animal existence. Depend on it, before many more months are out, we shall be hearing that a colour-television set, a car and a regular football-pools entry are no less essential for lifting the individual above the brutes than clothing and bread. And indeed, there is no logical stopping-place at all, because *any* individual or family, compared with *some* other, is "deprived" or "underprivileged" (I sometimes think that those two words alone without any more evidence, are enough to damn our civilization to the ninety-ninth circle of hell), and since the whole argument (whence the damnation-words above), though its proponents claim that it is based on their desire to uplift the needy, is in fact based on their terrible fanatic yearning to cast down the already uplifted, the result is a way of thought which holds this lie to be self-evident: *that nobody should have anything unless everybody can have it.*

And anyway, the other, positive, half of freedom is much more important. There is a freedom which not only takes no account of material circumstances but which even ignores the imposition of the worst and most cruel form of incarceration or slavery. Those Indian pavement-dwellers into whose open, unafraid, uncowed eyes I gazed in Calcutta; that German rabbi who, immersed by his Nazi concentration-camp captors in a vat of human excrement and laughingly invited to say a prayer, began it "My brothers"; that victim of Soviet evil who told his captors "You have taken from me my family, my home, my work, my friends, my liberty, my possessions—now there is nothing more you can take, and I am free, while you are in prison for ever"; these men demonstrated that that overused couplet enshrines one of the most important principles in the world: that stone walls do *not* a prison make, nor iron bars a cage. The ultimate freedom, the truly—indeed literally—vital one, is found within, not without, and an unemployed graduate, if he can find it, is freer than any millionaire who cannot.

But that is only half the problem with the letter-writers of whom I have spoken. The other half raises the whole question of "rights" in the modern world, of which, according to the correspondents, the "right" to be provided with a job by "the government" is paramount. To this extraordinary claim I shall address myself tomorrow.

LONDON DIARY

The bar to sober government

It is absolutely shocking that the bars in the Palace of Westminster *should* stay open whenever the House is sitting.

The opinion is not mine—I am in favour of the locks on pub doors being declared offensive weapons calculated to injure the fists of bona fide drinkers trying to gain entry outside the permitted hours. It is that of Lord Avebury, the Liberal peer, who is a teetotaller.

Speaking at an international conference on alcoholism in Liverpool yesterday, Lord Avebury said there were plenty of examples of political leaders whose drinking habits "must have impaired their intellectual capacity and their judgment".

Lord Avebury, who says he has not had a drink for eight years, said records showed that at the height of the Second World War, there were times when Winston Churchill was paralytically drunk.

And it is not only a Tory vice. After a visit to a Soviet collective farm in 1959, Hugh Gaitskell, he alleged, drank 19 tumblers of vodka and finished off with a tumbler of brandy. "It is hardly surprising that he then became unconscious and had to be carried to his car by Denis Healey and David Ennals. He then slept it off on the journey back to Moscow."

Having drink available at all hours in our seat of government was a dreadful example to set to the rest of the population, Lord Avebury said. "It is unthinkable that Fords of Dagenham should have a night bar so that if workers felt thirsty they could slip away for a few pints."

(I should point out here that, although I know of no bar within the Ford works, the Sir Henry Ford pub directly opposite the main gates at Dagenham is well patronized).

Lord Avebury said the job of being an MP (or even a lord, come to that) forced politicians to consume much more drink than was good for them. And to clinch his argument he added: "I knew contemporaries of mine when I was an MP who died through drink. There was one MP who drank himself to death. He was always in the bar".

If I had to sit through some of the tedious and irrelevant nonsense that passes for serious debate in the Palace of Westminster, I would be driven to drink too.

Myth heard?

Have you heard the first cuckoo yet? If you think you have, I fear you may have been mistaken, because the cuckoo-hearing season is not really upon us until the end of the week.

If you are still convinced that your ears do not deceive you, the man who opens our letters would be grateful if you kept it to yourself; the report of the first cuckoo in the correspondence columns of *The Times* is one of those myths that will not lie down and die. It is some years since such a letter appeared in this newspaper.

According to Roger Tabor, editor of *Country-Side*, the journal of the British Naturalists' Association, those living along the Hampshire and Sussex coasts cannot expect to hear the wretched bird before April 12, those in south-west and south-east England much before April 14 and those in the north and Scotland towards the end of the month.

During the 75 years that the association has been keeping records, it believes the first cuckoo (and it only just counts because it was a partial albino) was heard and seen on February 26 in southern Scotland. However *The Handbook*, the ornithologists' bible, puts the date considerably later at March 10.

Spotting the genuine article has become considerably more difficult with the advent in this country of the collared dove, which makes similar noises and has misled several correspondents to the opposite page.

The collared dove is not the only imposter. A Mr Lydekker, FRS, writing in these columns on February 6, 1913, to say he had heard the first cuckoo, had to write again six days later to confess he had been deceived by a bricklayer's labourer who was adroit at imitating it.

The moral of all this is: beware. Cuckoos, of which between 20,000 and 40,000 mating pairs can be expected from North Africa this year, have been late for the last three years. Deep suspicion will fall on anyone too fast with the pen and too slow with the binoculars.



'Do you realize there are four million people all over the world who might suddenly take it into their heads to make all this seem a complete waste of time?'

Thumping hit

Whatever merits Tony Benn may or may not have as a politician, he is currently enjoying considerable success as an author. Sales of his most recent printed work are basking in the kind of figures normally reserved for works of potboiling fiction grabbed at station bookstalls to be read without benefit of intellectual effort on long, boring journeys.

Benn's *Arguments for Socialism*, a combination of his speeches and a series of interviews with journalist Chris Mullin, sold out in its hardback version within eight weeks, despite its £6 price, and has been reprinted twice. The paperback version, issued last autumn, has sold 40,000 copies in eight months, helped no doubt by aggressive marketing at the back of the hall whenever its undeniably personable author appears on a platform.

Penguin, the paperback publishers, are understandably pleased by the popularity of the writings of one regarded as the Devil Incarnate by a substantial section of the British voting and book-buying public. Books of political tub-thumping are usually candidates for the remaindered counter.

Emboldened by his success, Benn is at work on a sequel, as yet untitled. It will be in the same vein as the first, but this time based on a series of major political lectures he has given over the years. By a happy coincidence, or astute marketing strategy as those in the trade call it, the new work will appear shortly before the election for the deputy leadership of the Labour Party.

If it sells as well as the first, Benn has either more supporters than he is usually given credit for or his opponents are anxious to bone up on the devil they don't know.

Top stream

I have always imagined the Boat Race to be the exclusive preserve of the upper classes, but I could not help noticing the high proportion of last Saturday's rowers with a grammar school background. (Despite Mrs Williams' strenuous efforts to impose comprehensive education, grammar schools do still exist).

Of the 18 rowers and coxes this year's event, I count se who did not have the benefit the traditional public sch education, which was m or less a prerequisite rowing Blues of the past. far the most successful row academy in recent years been Hampton Gramm School, which provided thr sturdy bodies for the la contest, all of whom had t good fortune to be in the w ning boat.

In the past 10 years Hampt boys have filled 18 places Boat Race crews, well over ha on the victorious side.

Good though Hampton record is, grammar schools ha not yet taken over the Bo Race entirely: Hampton li third in the league table f the past decade, exceeded b Radley with 18 places and Eto (of course) with 28. If you ca to go back to the very beginnin of the event, you will find total of 652 Eton bottoms si ting on Boat Race places, good five lengths ahead c Shrewsbury with 130 and Rad ley with 120.

Why, under the "marital status" section of Sunday's census form, did they allow for the single, married, divorced and widowed, but not the separated? Separation is after all a legal status. And why no box for cohabitants? The Census Office tell me that "separated" was too sensitive an issue to have its own box, and as for cohabitants, they were welcome to use the box marked "unrelated—please specify".

Alan Hamilton

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Le Monde
LA STAMPA
THE TIMES
DIE WELT

Europa

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photograph: Owen Franken

Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan at their recent meeting in Washington. Even when there is a common European policy it is presented through separate "pilgrimages" to America.

Arrigo Levi discusses the absence of any common political approach between Europe and the United States. On pages II and III other causes of potential conflict are examined

A relationship strangely out of balance

'he relations between the Jnited States and Europe are trangely unbalanced. There is permanent and largely institu-ionalized relationship in econ-mic affairs and a traditional, lmost entirely unstructured elationship in political affairs. 'he United States has a owerful permanent mission in Brussels, dealing with the conomic problems constantly rising between it and the European Community.

In addition, once a year a ummit meeting of the Seven — he United States, Canada and apan and the four main European powers — and the President of the European Commission discusses the vorld's economic problems in ull and defines a common, oordinated Western strategy or the next 12 months.

The summit of the Seven also llows a more informal general iscussion of the main political roblems of the day. But the reparation of the two halves is uriously uneven. While the fficial economic summit is repared by a team of special epresentatives of the seven eads of government or state, hrough a series of meetings nd consultations of the power-ul common institutions (the EC, the OECD, the IEA, the entral banks' network of onstant communications), the nofficial political summit is eft to last-minute improvization y the foreign ministries, hrough their usual diplomatic hannels. These are mostly ased on bilateral relations, the xception is European political ooperation.

We all know how imperfect he coordination of Western conomic policy still is, in spite f the existence of those huge nstitutions whose purpose is, nd has been for many years, to make such coordination possible and almost unavoidable. The force of the national state remains immense. For instance, the new economic policy of the Reagan Administration, which is the result of purely American political and economic developments, is having a powerful impact on the European economic cycle and the ecomomic decisions of the European governments.

As a result the preparation for the Ottawa summit of the Seven in June will provoke a general review of the ensuing problems (like that of the United States high interest rates), and prepare the ground for reconstructing the general picture of the Western economy, allowing the definition of a general economic strategy agreed by all. The whole exercise will probably produce imperfect results. But the fact that it will take place, and that a number of existing institutions have, as their task and duty, the production of agreed economic policies, will certainly act as a powerful brake on antagonistic national tendencies.

If one turns from economics to political affairs, the picture is entirely different. Of course, the United States continues to plan its foreign policy as a unified exercise. America has, by definition, one European policy (although, occasionally, there may be two, one emanating from the White House, the other from the State Department, and sometimes even hints of a third from the Pentagon). But there is no single European policy towards the United States and even if, and when, European political cooperation, and informal contacts between the main European powers, produce a common or coordinated political strategy, there is no individual, no political body, institutionally charged with the task of "negotiating with the Americans".

The lack of a recognized forum where such coordination takes place, with the exception of Nato — whose regional and "military" limitations are well known — leaves political relations between Europe and the United States in a different category from economic relations.

On one side, we have the multilateral, institutionalized diplomacy of the jet and electronic era, and on the other, a bilateral ad hoc diplomacy rooted in ancient traditions — totally unrelated to our world.

The disadvantages of such a situation become particularly evident whenever there comes into existence a new American administration, often with a new philosophy and a new list of priorities. The Europeans have to adjust to these changes, which affect each European government in a different way. Some of them may suddenly find themselves more, others less attuned to the new American mood and policy.

And even if and when the mechanisms of European political cooperation succeed in smoothing over national differences and produce a reasonably coordinated common approach, this is presented to the new American Administration through a series of separate "pilgrimages" across the ocean by European political leaders.

The result is not exactly harmonious, the highly-publicized bilateral Washington meetings emphasize, inevitably the remaining divergences between the European powers, apparently competing for the new President's favours. When the Seven finally meet at their annual summit, preceded by a meeting of the foreign ministers at a Nato council, much of the damage will have been done. American and European public opinions will have drifted farther apart in misunderstanding and mutual suspicion.

All this shows how imperfect still is the structure of European political cooperation, in spite of progress made during the past decade, since it does not allow Europe to present a common policy and a common image to our greatest friend and ally, the United States. It is equally obvious that coordination of European-American policies is much farther behind, lacking the basic institutional mechanisms which are indispensible to containing the inevitable disagreements arising in the moods and policies of American and European societies.

Contradictions could often be prevented and misunderstandings avoided through timely, permanent consultations. Unfortunately, the statesmen of our day are reluctant to try to invent new institutions. They still rely on those which were set up in the great creative age of Western diplomacy, in the postwar period, a generation ago. Since then, the world has undergone revolutionary changes. Western institutions have mostly remained the same. We Europeans can be proud of being the only ones who have invented something new, like political cooperation and the European Council. However, we cannot delude ourselves that this is enough. An attempt to create, together with our American friends, a new kind of alliance can no longer be delayed.

Reform of economic policies gathers momentum

At first it had looked like a passing fashion. The image of Keynesian economics had become tarnished and it was time to resuscitate the classical school. It was the law of the pendulum in operation; it was a fickle intelligentsia feeling the need for a change, and so on. Then there came a more serious belief that the change in mood among economists had been caused by the crisis that had been revealed, if not actually induced, by the eruption of oil prices.

But when it gradually became clear that ordinary people throughout the Western world had not only lost patience with excessive state intervention, taxes and social security contributions, but were prepared to vote into power governments which held the same views, there was no longer any denying that a strong current had been set in motion.

With the arrival of Mr Ronald Reagan at the White House, it has developed into a tidal wave. His radical economic programme, dominated by vigorous wielding of the axe over public spending, has impressed the whole world. The new President of the United States has therefore presented himself not only as the champion of the cause of fighting inflation, but also as the advocate of a complete reversal of the economic doctrines which have prevailed hitherto in the American Administration. Over - government, the monster that people thought could no longer be stopped growing, is collapsing with a great din.

The noise from across the Atlantic should not drown the echoes from the abrupt changes of direction taken in other countries some time ago. Mrs Thatcher in Britain was the first to break — none too gently — with past methods of conducting an economic policy. Of course, Conservative governments invariably introduce programmes that are very different from those of the Labour governments that they have just put out of office. But style matters and, moreover, parties tend to tone down the content of their election manifestos when they come to power. It did not take many days after May 3, 1979, for people to realize that Mrs Thatcher had no intention of allowing the sting to be drawn from her programme.

She saw no room for compromise in the range of radical measures to be applied, involving the abandonment of incomes policy and price controls, the reduction of taxes, a halt to nationalization, the reduction of public spending, monetarism worthy of the Chicago school and abolition of all exchange controls. She certainly had a mandate from the electorate, who returned the Conservatives with their biggest majority since the war. According to Hugh Stephenson*, she was strongly influenced by the economists Friedrich Hayek and Milton Friedman, whom she had met in 1977; their role in spreading the ideas of a radical "new light" is well known.

The liberals' success in the last West German elections is another manifestation of the shift in public opinion, but their influence extends far beyond the real political weight of the FDP. Count Otto Lambsdorff, Minister for Economic Affairs, is determined to defend his liberal doctrines against any ferment of resistance arising out of the crisis. Nor will he find the Chancellor placing any significant restrictions on the development of his ideas, even though those who have a liking for anecdote, and hope to stir up animosity between the two, point out that Herr Schmidt has a portrait of the socialist leader Babel in his office whereas the count works under the austere gaze of Bismark.†

In France, as always, the conceptual mix is more complex. President Giscard d'Estaing has deliberately set himself up as the apostle of radicalism, and even of "advanced radicalism", signifying that he did not intend to confine himself to the old ideas of the Manchester school. His Government has indeed applied some of the teachings of the neo-radicals, abolishing price controls, turning its back on incomes policy in order to encourage dialogue between employers and employees, and pursuing a policy aimed at helping companies to rebuild their profits.

That said, the power of the state remains very great. The total burden of fiscal and social security contributions is rising all the time. Whereas it amounted to 36.3 per cent of the national product at the beginning of President Giscard's seven-year term of office, it now stands at 42 per cent.

At the same time, the state under the premiership of M Barre is intervening in more and more areas of the private sector, whether to encourage companies to merge or set up plants in certain areas, or to gain control of all the markets where essential technology is involved.

Curiously, the political figure who has most readily associated himself with the radical tidal wave is M Chirac, who now presents himself as standing four-square with the majority — but against President Giscard — as a disciple of President Reagan, attacking state centralization, interventionism and milching of the taxpayer.

The radical intellectual resurgence is on the crest of a wave in most Western countries, especially in the universities. Examples who spring to mind are J-J. Rosa, Pascal Salin, Christian Morrisson and Alain Wolfelsperger in France, Alan Peacock, John Burton and Ralph Harris in Britain, Professor Giersch's team in West Germany, and Antonio Martino and Sergio Ricossa in Italy.

It is nevertheless difficult to assess what chance this radical revival has of standing the test of time. It all depends on the results achieved with policies pursued under this label. No doubt the economic policies of the Labour Party in Britain or the Democrats in the United States did not come up to the expectations of their architects. But although Mrs Thatcher is gradually bringing inflation under control and has elevated sterling to an enviable position, she has had complete lack of success on the employment front (10 per cent of the working population unemployed) and radical theory has suffered a number of setbacks (state support for British Leyland and British Steel, scrapping of the plans to restructure the coal industry, and above all the increase in direct taxation).

The West Germans for their part are expecting an absolute fall in output in 1981 and their external deficit is reaching record levels.

All eyes are now on the United States. If it makes a good start and manages to maintain a fair growth rate without too much inflation, the flame of radicalism could be burning for some time to come. Otherwise. . .

Pierre Drouin

*Mrs Thatcher's First Year. *Jill Norman, London 1980.*
† Journal de Genève, *(January 7, 1981).*

Dialogue must replace world's dangerous instability

irmness is needed in dealing with the oviet Union and the regeneration of the uropean Community which has lost the eals for which it was founded. **Paolo rimberti** talks to **SIGNOR EMILIO OLOMBO**, the Italian Foreign Minister

t-West relations are at their est level since the invasion zechoslovakia, 13 years ago. ister, are we once again g through a period of cold ?

is always difficult to define period in our history by loying the same expressions we used to define earlier ods. I do not think that, in present state of affairs, we speak once more of cold I would rather say that we in an unstable international ation, and for this reason, it very dangerous one.

can we get out of this gerous situation?

ndoubtedly the only way, h we must try to make use s by continuing to talk. We to replace this period of bility with a dialogue that stabilize East-West re-ns. And that calls for eration and a sense of onsibility on everyone's In this period it has been to everyone that détente was something that the Soviet Union interpreted onesidedly. Whereas the West, in Moscow's view, ought to do nothing, but respect its agreements, the Soviet Union was free to take direct action to change existing balances of power.

But the Russians have always said, right from the time of the first Brezhnev-Nixon meeting in 1972, that détente does not mean the "end of ideological competition". There is nothing surprising, therefore, about the Soviet Union's policy of expansion; if anything, it is the way the West sees it that has changed. Why?

Because two things have changed since then. First of all, as far as ideological competition is concerned, we have seen external military support given to individual countries. Undoubtedly, the most obvious case is Afghanistan. But this is not the only one, if we remember the direct or indirect intervention, through the *longa manus* of the Cubans, in Africa, or the constant threats to Poland, I do not think that this boils down purely and simply to ideological competition.

And second, the West, which is indeed experiencing a phase of détente, has been less concerned than in the past to guarantee a balance of forces, above all military force, as well as a balance of influence in the world.

With regard to the balance of forces, do you consider the proposal of the Soviet President, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, acceptable, for a moratorium on the installation of theatre nuclear forces in Europe?

The moratorium that Mr Brezhnev proposes today is very different from what was proposed 10 months ago by Chancellor Schmidt. The Soviet proposal aims at the ratification of a condition of substantial inequality which, quite apart from the East-West relationship taken overall, particularly affects Europe. Now, Mr Brezhnev's proposals have something to commend them, since they express an aspiration and desire to discuss, and to negotiate. But in themselves they are not acceptable. It is important that the bases for this discussion should be reasonable and fair.

Minister, you were the first European statesman to have a meeting with President Reagan and Secretary of State Haig. After which, you had a number of talks with all your European colleagues. Do you agree with the analysis that the new American Administration has made of the international situation? Is there a common European line?

Yes, we share the same views, and consider that the firmness shown by the United States is a good thing. Obviously, it is the kind of firmness that we value, with good reason, because it is in favour of dialogue; but it is a dialogue that begins from positions of absolute equilibrium.

Italy has a special terrorism problem. Do you also share General Haig's view when he says that the Soviet Union is the "godmother" of world terrorism?

I think that the American analysis goes beyond the phenomenon of terrorism as we understand it in Italy, and also in Europe. It embraces phenomena of various types, especially the revolutionary movements within individual countries, which are supported by external intervention. It is a very much more extensive interpretation of the concept of terrorism.

It is certainly difficult, as things are today, to translate concretely — that is, into diplomatic action — the need and desire for dialogue that you have mentioned several times. But, from the practical viewpoint, what can we do today ?

We can, for a start, send the Soviet Union clear signals to make it understand that détente would be irreversibly compromised if there were any other action aimed at changing the present balance; or we were asked to accept as a fait accompli situations such as Afghanistan, without seeking political solutions. I think that this attitude would be important. Moreover, I believe that the West must restore the status quo, where equilibrium has been upset.

This gives us the problem of how, and where, the West must concentrate its action. Recently there have been arguments over the suggestion, which then lapsed, for a limited summit in Martinique. There was a report by four institutes of international relations that put forward various proposals for dealing with crises, and emphasized that the so-called "principal nations", which excludes Italy, have a special role. What is your opinion about this ?

The report contains a number of assessments and views on Western policy with which we can broadly agree. Then it looks at ways of drawing up a common policy but, in my view, comes to the wrong conclusion. There are already European and, in the broader sense, Western institutional consultative bodies that function perfectly well.

Under our own presidency the summit meeting of the seven most highly industrialized countries was changed from a purely economic meeting to one that was also political. If, therefore, we are looking for a Western consultative body that can include also a large Asiatic power such as Japan, the meeting of the seven is the proper one.

We do not at all believe in the usefulness of summit meetings of the Guadeloupe kind. Experience tells us that they do more harm than good, and it is better not to repeat them. Italy has shown it wants to take on its own responsibilities within the Western alliance, but certainly would not wish to undertake duties, or apply decisions, in the framing of which it had had no part.

But a country's foreign policy is the projection of its domestic policy. And, to the outside world, Italy projects an image of continuous government crises, and perennial economic weakness. How can it have any pretensions to authority in foreign policy ?

When speaking with the leaders in other countries I found myself following two lines of reasoning that are apparently contradictory. From the point of view of its international orientation Italy is certainly the most stable postwar country. It has taken its decisions, and stood by them. Indeed, within the country, some political forces even had opposed these decisions, and then declared their support for them.

There is, however, the other side of the picture. I always have to make it clear that this constancy and continuity will be maintained despite the fact of having to suffer the instability and uncertainty of internal policy, the weaknesses of our economic policy and the almost total unawareness of certain social and political forces within our country that there is a direct relationship between strength and cohesion in domestic policy, and efficiency and prestige in foreign policy.

In the recent past, one of the causes of disagreement between the European partners has often been the European Community. What, Minister, is your diagnosis of the state of health of the EEC ?

We realize that we have already achieved a great deal, and not without difficulty. We are not, however, satisfied. Not only, and not so much, because a number of substantial Italian interests sometimes do not appear to be taken into account in the development of Community policy. But, above all, because we believe that Europe has lost its drive, has lost the ideals for which it was brought into being, and has today become a fount of fragile compromises, slow to be reached, and not always fair to all.

We can always ask this or that country for sacrifices, in this or that sector, if we remain true to the final objective, which is European union and, by implication, a common responsibility towards the other leading powers in world policy, and a commitment to the harmonious development of all member countries and components of the Community.

On the contrary

Weather forecast

terday's unsettled conditions, especially sea areas Sole, Fisher, German Bight, isterre, Biscay, Irish Sea and South-east land, seem likely to go on affecting the ather round our coasts. Farther inland, bility remains poor to moderate, with e over prospects for EMS, and fog ches over high unemployment figures. gional, social, and industrial policies will tinue wet, with scattered showers and vy rain at times, but the possibility of ght intervals later.

pending will remain steady, despite a e of high pressure over CAP reform, affected by a blocking anticyclone. Further squalls can be expected over the Budget, with temperatures rising, winds reaching storm force 10, severe funnelling at times, and the depression slowly backing and filling. Under the influence of westerly airstreams, particularly affecting the trades, gales force 8 to 9 may be imminent in sea areas Rockall, Bailey and Reagan. No icing is expected.

Further outlook: continuing depression, with thunder at times, poor conditions on left of the chart possibly leading to local disturbances, with similar outbreaks due to associated fronts crossing on the far right.

Pangloss

The Reagan economy

Stronger dollar would oppress the Old World

How is Europe likely to be affected by the new economic policy in the United States? The American influence will make itself felt, directly and indirectly, through developments in three areas, which may be interrelated but not necessarily: whether or not the Reagan programme to restore the balance of the domestic economy succeeds, whether or not the American trade deficit can be eliminated, and whether or not a stricter interpretation of the defence of American national interests leads to use of the economic lever.

What chances of success are there for the programme announced by the Reagan Administration to reduce public spending and simultaneously reflate the economy by means of tax reductions at a time when inflation threatens? It takes no great foresight to realize that it has aroused so many hopes that disappointment is bound to follow, even if it is partly successful — although that would still be an achievement.

The fact is, however, that the dollar's rise, which can be explained by the high rates of interest in the United States but is not justified by any change in the economic indices, has already produced an undeniable psychological effect which has coincided with an opposite effect in West Germany.

In fact, whether it succeeds partly or not, this programme serves notice that the United States has become aware of the need to put its house in order. It is abandoning the essentially political and social approach which has prevailed since the Kennedy presidency to revert to more rigorous economic policy and it is undertaking a change of direction as radical as President Roosevelt's New Deal, although entirely different.

This sudden urge to sweep one's doorstep clean, with the constant temptation to brush a few difficulties in the direction of the Old World (as has been seen in Washington's efforts to discourage Japan from accepting voluntary limitation of its car exports to Europe), necessarily creates a more or less corresponding need for Europe to respond in kind.

The second possibility of change — the restoration of the American trade balance — is perhaps not so remote or improbable as may be thought. At all events, having complained for more than 20 years about the chronic deficit of their great ally and the weakness of the dollar, countries in Europe would be well advised to consider how they would fare if faced with an American trade surplus and a strong dollar. The chances of this combination materializing are virtually independent of the prospects of success for the Reagan programme, although those countries would clearly suffer if the programme failed dramatically and ended in accelerating inflation and economic depression — but that is far from being the most likely outcome.

In 1980 American oil imports amounted to $78,000m, while the trade deficit was $32,000m. American exports, however, are traditionally fairly low because of the postwar tendency to invest abroad direct rather than export. Although exports have risen substantially (by 21 per cent in 1980), they still amount to only 10 per cent of the American gnp, compared with 20 to 25 per cent in the other industrialized countries, so that there is very considerable room for manoeuvre. The measures introduced under the previous administration to promote exports are beginning to bear fruit and others are now following, particularly in the form of relaxation of regulations, despite the reduction on Eximbank financing facilities.

If exports continue to increase at roughly the same rate (the rising dollar is making matters more difficult, but does not seem to be a major obstacle) and American oil production rises spectacularly in response to the removal of controls on crude prices announced by President Reagan on arrival in office, the American trade deficit could disappear quite quickly. The European countries could then find that they suffer on various fronts, with a stronger dollar pushing up the cost of their imports (of oil in particular), with a trade adversary which is much more determined to defend its interests and the possibility of a reversal of international financial flows.

The need to give serious consideration to these possibilities is heightened by the prospect of the emergence of a third development in American policy: the systematic use of the economic lever as an instrument for exertion of power or, more exactly, for staunch defence of American interests. The "linking" concept launched by Mr Reagan on the day he was elected as the basis for relations with the Soviet Union has clearly not been announced as the basis for relations with Europe and its constituent nations. It would be an obvious diplomatic gaffe to announce: "We give you military protection, but you must pay the cost and we must derive a minimum level of benefit."

Nevertheless, there is good reason to believe that this general principle will not be applied only to American relations with the Soviet Union, but also to dealings with all other countries. Moreover, it is in line with recent Republican diplomacy; it will be remembered that in 1973 the European members of Nato had to hold firm against President Nixon and Dr Kissinger to prevent the expansion worldwide of issues in the negotiations over a new Atlantic charter (which never saw the light of day).

The European countries preferred to discuss different subjects separately, with monetary matters for the IMF, trade matters for Gatt and military matters for Nato. It is not certain that they will be able to maintain such compartmentalization in the important discussions between allies during the months leading to the Western summit to be held in Ottawa next July before the meetings between the United States and the Soviet Union scheduled for the autumn. In fact, it has already been given out that summit meetings will no longer be confined to economic matters, but will probably also include defence issues.

The European region could well gain from this in strategic terms, but is much less likely to obtain any economic advantage. Even supposing that the United States uses every means at its disposal, including, for instance, its ability to spark off a soya war or to resort to various other deterrents to induce the dismantling of the agricultural common market which it finds increasingly vexing, the Europeans will still, at least, have the consolation of telling themselves that what is good for their greatest ally is good for them.

They will also have to ask themselves whether or not the economic order anounced by the OECD in its table of incomes per head in 1979 really corresponds to the existing political order; not a few American newspapers commented bitterly on the news that the United States no longer came first but tenth in the league table of average personal incomes, behind Switzerland, Denmark, West Germany, Sweden, Luxembourg, Norway, Belgium, Iceland and France.

In conclusion, Europe will pay. Judgment of the overall success of American policy will come down to the question of whether or not, all things considered, the position of Western countries as a whole is improved, even in a different order.

Jacqueline Grapin

The sensitive areas of relations between EEC and the United States

The EEC's deficit with the United States more than doubled between 1979 and 1980, from $13,000m to $28,000m (its deficit with Japan in 1980 was $10,700m). On Mr Reagan's arrival in power, the main differences between the EEC and the United States were in these areas:

The dollar. Its rising exchange value is largely attributable to a policy of high interest rates. With the present change in this policy, interest rates have begun to come down.

Export credit. The later stages of the Carter Administration saw a full-scale export credit war between the EEC and the United States within the OECD. The Americans accused the Europeans of fixing export credit interest rates at much too low levels in order to secure contract in the Third World countries. This argument has not yet been settled and President Reagan's decision to reduce the funds appropriated to the Export-Import Bank by $410m will not help to find a solution.

Textiles. EEC manufacturers are worried about the increasing shares taken by the United States in the Ten's markets in corduroy and denim, which have increased to 23 per cent and 30 per cent respectively, from 10 per cent and 24 per cent in 1977.

In addition, they find that there has been an effective increase in American customs duties on European made-up clothes as a result of changes in customs classifications.

Iron and steel. The United States has decided to raise the "trigger prices" (minimum, prices) for imported iron and steel products by an average of 4.4 per cent with effect from March 1.

This decision seems all the more regrettable in view of the declining volume of EEC iron and steel exports to the United States, from 7,400,000 tons in 1978 to 5,400,000 in 1979 and 3,900,000 tons in 1980.

Question mark hangs over US aid to Third World

Wave of panic over threat of cuts

When President Reagan announced the drastic cuts that he intended to make in the budget for American contributions to the international organizations, a ripple — not to say a wave — of panic spread through international Geneva.

Similar reactions greeted his statements about the priority that his country intended to attach to combating international terrorism at the expense of the defence of human rights and economic and social right. And it was not long before people began to notice that some American diplomats were giving premonitory signs of a Red Guards style of approach, with the catch-phrase "let's make a clean sweep".

However, while still worried about the new American administration, the "Unocrats" soon realized that all was not lost. The new American representatives were having little success in concealing their inexperience of international organizations, the effect of which was to induce greater circumspection in the Reagan administration.

It became clear that political directives did not always coincide with international realities and that, in Geneva especially, there were matters in hand and resolutions already passed which could not easily be reversed. Moreover, the inertial mass of international machinery was an obstacle that the United States would have to reckon with. The clean sweep policy gradually gave way to one of critical review.

The new American policy is indistinct in some areas and no significant developments were discernible at the conference on disarmament, but there is one area in which it has changed: human rights. For all their projection of themselves as champions of human rights, the representatives of the Carter Administration on the United Nations human rights commission — and all the other members too — turned a blind eye to the excesses of Savak in the Shah's Iran and the violations of human rights in the oil-producing countries, although they did at least demonstrate their solidarity with the victims of Latin American dictators.

This year, however, the United States abstained on a resolution calling for the termination of arms sales to the El Salvador regime, reflecting its fear of international terrorism and communism, particularly where the communists are not in power. Nor have the American delegates on this commission been excessively tactful towards the East European countries, or Cuba in particular. One of them, Mr Novak, caused a sensation when vigorously denouncing the violence of the ritual condemnations aimed exclusively at the state of Israel, taking the opportunity to refer to anti-Semitism and murderous hatred.

The institutions which depend for their existence on voluntary contributions, and particularly those from the United States, are not losing heart. For instance, Mr Hardling, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, found his recent meeting with Mr Bush, vice-president of the United States, "good, useful and encouraging", although he had not been given any firm promises about money.

It seems that the United States is prepared to provide financial support for the conference of African refugees opening in Geneva on Thursday and does not intend to abandon the two million or so Afghan refugees or the hundreds of Asian refugees. Mischief-makers in Geneva point out that, in American eyes, refugees are not to be despised, especially when they have fled from communist countries or countries whose regimes are sympathetic to communism.

Unicef, for its part, remains worried. Mr Grant, its executive director, said: "The proposed reductions would be a serious blow to the world effort to achieve minimum standards of nutrition, health care, education, hygiene and economic prospects for almost a million children who are at present suffering from utter poverty at its very worst". Mr Blanchard, director general of the International Labour Office, was another senior official who did not conceal his concern, although at the last meeting of the governing body of the ILO the United States agreed to a 9 per cent increase in its budget.

At the World Health Organization, the International Telecommunication Union and the World Metreorological Organization, they are awaiting the next major conferences to gauge the extent of the likely changes.

The United Nations Development Programme, which depends heavily on American aid, needs $6,500m for 1982-86, an increase of 14 per cent over 1981. The United States is proposing a contribution which is slightly higher than this year's, but falls far short of the needs and what was hoped for.

The United States has never been particularly well disposed towards the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad), but it took a particularly tough attitude during the negotiations on tin and has stated that it [...] not attend the sixth U[...] conference if it is hel[...] Havana.

The main function of Un[...] which is in effect a platfor[...] Third World claims, is stab[...]tion of raw materials prices[...] the United States intend[...] encourage the policy of re[...] on market forces. It does[...] seem to be prepared to [...] any concessions, either or[...] transfer of technology or i[...] global negotiations on [...]modities, and shows a ma[...] preference for bilateral [...]lations. So too does the S[...] Union which plays a li[...] role only in Unctad [...] provides aid selectively [...] countries which interes[...] politically.

At the United Nations E[...]omic Commission for Eu[...] which endeavours to co[...] itself to technical matters, [...] result of which it is the [...] East-West body which wor[...] spite of political vicissitude[...] great changes are expected. [...] United States is admit[...] showing no enthusiasm [...] President Brezhnev's prop[...] for high-level conferences.

The present pattern of A[...]can policy is erratic and it [...] harden once all the [...] appointments have taken [...] their posts, but one thing s[...] certain in Geneva: the U[...] States' lack of interest in T[...] World development places [...]itional responsibilities [...] Europe in international n[...]tiations.

Isabelle Vichn[...]

photograph: Judah Passow/N[...]

An Afghan refugee camp just inside the Pakistan border at Pishin, in Kandahar province. People had walked for hundreds of miles over difficult terrain to reach the comparative safety of the temporary settlement.

Facts and figures

Employment conundrum: need to strike a balance

In their efforts to solve their economic problems, the governments of the industrialized countries are being made to look more than ever as though they are "circling the magic square" as they endeavour to strike a balance between output, employment, prices and balance of payments. The task before them looks much more arduous than what they had to contend with after the first oil price crisis, when it did not take too long to restore balance-of-payments positions, reduce inflation to a manageable level and even contrive a resumption of growth.

It may be possible to live with trade deficits by accumulating debts, which all governments are resigned to (including those that deny it), and with high prices, but one objective remains a forlorn hope, at least in the immediate term: restoration of full employment. The employment situation suffering from the combination of the cyclical effects of the recession and the structural effects of profound changes in the industrial fabric imposed by fierce international competition. In struggling through this difficult period, each country must simultaneously avoid an unacceptable increase in its unemployment figures and resist the temptation to take ill-considered defensive action which would mortgage the promised benefits of a recovery in 1982.

Unemployment figures are always debatable and are sometimes challenged as misleading. Demographic, social and economic contexts vary from country to country, as do the calculation methods used and the manner in which the statistics are presented by politicians. Nevertheless, the picture becomes clearer when one looks at growth rates as well as absolute figures. The unenviable position of unchallenged leader is held by Britain, where the number of unemployed has soared over the past 12 months, so that 10 per cent of the working population is now out of work, as our graph shows.

In a recently published bulletin, the Charterhouse Group points out that, by 1982, the North Sea oil profits of £15,000m will be wholly absorbed by benefits to the unemployed, whose numbers are expected to have risen to three million. In other words, this revenue is going to be used for defensive social measures, whereas the priority ought to be to pave the way for recovery by providing industry with resources for investment.

The same bulletin also makes the point that companies are not even deriving any benefit in terms of competitiveness from the trimming of their workforces because business is declining even more rapidly. It may be that an increase in unemployment is inevitable, but it should not be accelerated by the effects of an excessive monetary and budgetary policy. Otherwise Britain will be plunged into the vicious circle of deep-seated depression, with the realization of the forecast of 3,500,000 unemployed by 1985 made by the Confederation of British Industry.

The confederation has put forward a four-year recovery plan, to be financed by oil revenue, which would reduce the figure to a little over two million. Alas, the Budget announced on March 10, which just scraped through Parliament, was unrelenting in the pursuit of austerity.

It is necessary to avoid the two unrealistic extremes of excessive monetary stringency and wanton reflation, which would exacerbate trade deficits and create employment, not at home, but abroad through increased imports. France has apparently chosen the middle course, but it has failed to prevent a steady increase in unemployment which, as has been shown by a survey carried out by the national statistical institute, is the cause of great fear among the French people and is becoming the most important theme in the present presidential election campaign.

The outgoing President, M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, when questioned by journalists during a televised debate, admitted that unemployment had been the black spot in his seven-year term of office, although going on immediately to demonstrate, on the basis of carefully selected favourable statistics, that France had suffered rather less than other countries and would fare better in the future — by about 1985, when the declining surplus in the working population would be showing through.

The approach here is to follow much the same principle as with the balance of payments and accumulating debt. It is a question of dealing in "employment futures". Hence the adoption of measures which help to buy time, such as the provision of state aid to promote part-time employment or early retirement. The trick is to avoid over-emphasizing social benefits to the extent of killing competitiveness.

There is no lack of alternative proposals, such as a sharp reduction in working hours or a vigorous boost to growth, reaching maximum employment and placing obstacles in the way of imports, or provisions to favour labour productivity by placing the emphasis in taxation on machinery rather than manpower. The last of these proposals would jeopardize the new technology which the motor industry, for instance, must accept if it is to meet the challenge from Japan. In the present electoral atmosphere, miracle solutions abound, but unfortunately economic and social reality will not fail to demonstrate their limitations.

West Germany has much greater room for manoeuvre than France and certainly Britain, whatever interpretation is placed on the statistics and despite the sometimes disadvantageous comparisons that are being made. The side of the magic square which is giving greatest cause for concern in Germany is the balance of payments, where a vicious circle is causing a rapid decline in the terms of trade.

The recently announced monetary measures pointed clearly to the West German preoccupation with this aspect of the economy, which could make for deepening recession and greater underemployment. The figure of one million unemployed has already been exceeded and it has the same psychological significance as the nearing of two million in France and three million in Britain. The impact has been all the greater in that the man in the street has become accustomed to taking comfort in Chancellor Schmidt's celebrated dictum to the effect that "today's profits are tomorrow's investments and the day after tomorrow's jobs".

It seemed only recently that West Germany was on course for these objectives, but their attainment is now compromised. What is worse, the meaning of the Chancellor's words is in danger of being drastically distorted by the increasing investment in productivity into which West German industry is being forced by Japanese and American competition, with no compensating growth in business activity.

The trade unions have lost their faith in the virtues of wage restraint and are now looking to more direct courses of action; the DGB, for instance, is promoting a plan which, with government finance, would create between 200,000 and 300,000 jobs in five selected branches of industry. However, both Herr Matthoefer, the Minister of Finance, and Herr Lambsdorf, the Minister for Economic Affairs, are resolutely opposed to all reflationary schemes. Indeed, the latter has advised everybody to "work hard and tighten your belts". That is all very well for those who still have jobs, although it is true that short-time working is widely used in West Germany as a formula for waiting for better times.

If the statistics are to be believed, Italy has been overtaken by Britain in the past 12 months as the country with the highest rate of unemployment. It has to be realized that business activity was at a high level in Italy for much of 1980, so that unemployment was kept down, but it could well rise appreciably with the economic decline.

Unemployment is a priority problem with the same ranking as the enormous balance-of-payments deficit. The plan of Signor Manca, Minister for Foreign Trade, had been to boost exports and employment simultaneously by means of credit facilities, but in the end the Government was left wi[...] no alternative but to devalue t[...] lira.

Admittedly, Italy is bett[...] able than other countries to fa[...] back on the regulatory mecha[...]isms of the "black economy" where it has a mass of efficie[...] small businesses. Their circum[...]stances contrast dramaticall[...] with those of the large comp[...]nies in such industries [...] chemical engineering, whic[...] are almost bankrupt and a[...] unable to continue employin[...] their hundreds of thousands o[...] workers without state aid.

Maurice Bommensat[...]
economist with Cego[...] management consultants Pari[...]

United States: business still buoyant

Growth rate: American business activity remains buoyant, thanks largely to high consumption, with retail sales up by 2.9 per cent in January and by 0.9 per cent in February. However, industry's orders slipped for the first time by 0.3 per cent in January, and industrial output by 0.5 per cent in February.

Prices: On the basis of December, January and February, the annual rates of increase rose to 9.2 per cent in the case of wholesale prices and remained at 11.5 per cent in that of retail prices.

Unemployment: The unemployment rate, expressed as a proportion of the working population and seasonally adjusted, fell slightly from 7.4 per cent to 7.3 per cent between January and February. Although the percentage fall in recent months has been small (0.3 per cent), there has been a substantial rise in the total number in employment (up 500,000).

Foreign trade: The trade deficit, calculated fob-cif, which had been reduced to only $1,600m in November, has risen again sharply, to $3,110m in December and $5,440m in January and $3,150m in February.

Monetary and financial influence: Prime rates have continued their downward trend, in steps from 19 per cent to 18 per cent, and on to 17.5 per cent and even 17 per cent.

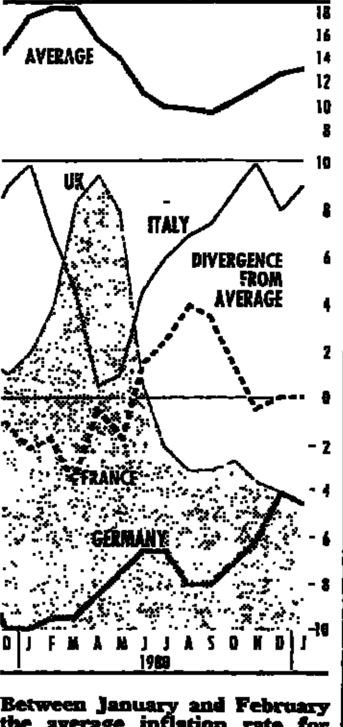
Japan: foreign trade shows surplus

Growth rate: Industrial output rose by a further 0.6 per cent in January, and 2.5 per cent in February. Consumer spending, however, is stagnant.

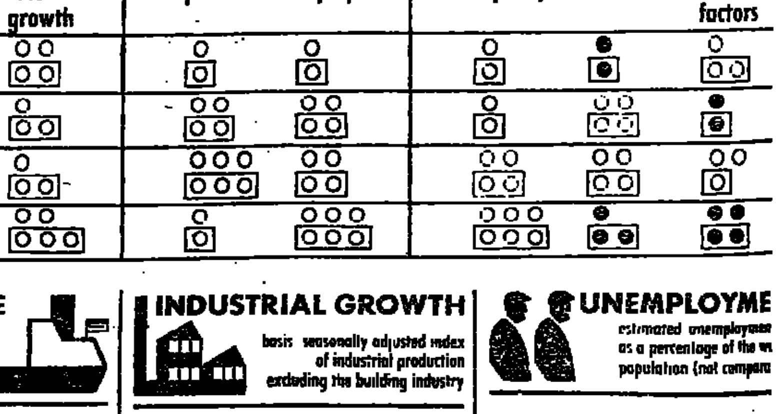
Prices: Calculated on the basis of December, January and February and annualized, the rate of inflation is 2.8 per cent. On the year-on-year basis, it is 6.5 per cent.

Unemployment: The unemployment rate, calculated as a proportion of the working population and seasonally adjusted, is 2.2 per cent.

Foreign trade: The trade balance, calculated fob-cif and seasonally adjusted, showed surpluses of $470m in January and $170m in February.

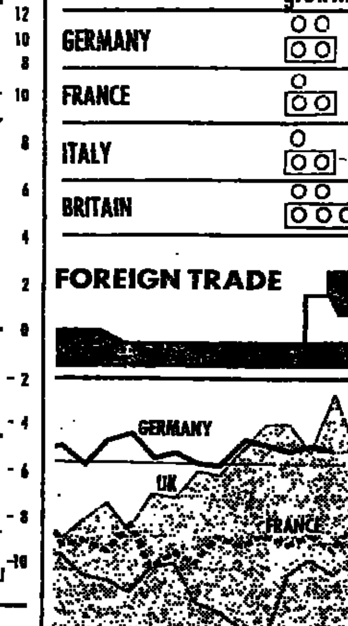


Between January and February the average inflation rate for the four *Europa* countries was unchanged at 12.8 per cent. There were slight increases in West Germany (from 8.3 per cent to 8.7 per cent), Britain (7.9 per cent to 8.3 per cent) and France (11.8 per cent to 12.7 per cent). Italy on the other hand showed a slight improvement, from 23.3 per cent to 21.9 per cent. These rates are based on the past three months. On the year-on-year reckoning they work out at 5.4 per cent for West Germany, 12.5 per cent for Britain, 12.6 per cent for France and 20 per cent for Italy.

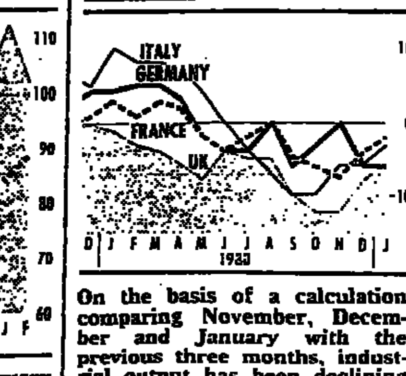


excellent ●●● poor ○ · good ●● bad ○○ · fairly good ● very bad ○○○ · previous performance [ ]

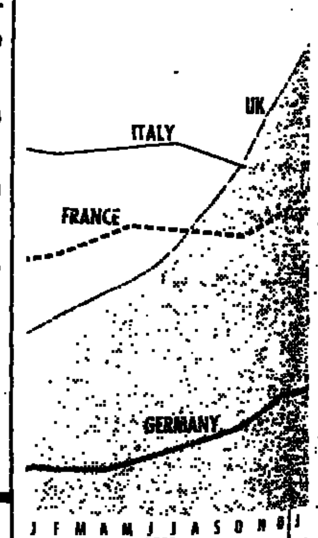
	rate of growth	quality of growth: prices	quality of growth: unemployment	maintenance of growth: productive capacity	maintenance of growth: foreign trade	maintenance of growth: vulnerab[...] to exter[...] factors
GERMANY	○○ [○○]	○ [○]	○ [○]	○ [○]	● [●]	○ [○○]
FRANCE	○ [○○]	○○ [○○]	○○ [○○]	○ [○]	○○ [○○]	● [●]
ITALY	○ [○○]	○○○ [○○○]	○○ [○○]	○○ [○○]	○○ [○○]	○○ [○]
BRITAIN	○○ [○○○]	○ [○]	○○○ [○○○]	○○○ [○○○]	● [●●]	●● [●●]



From January to February cover of imports by exports (calculated fob-cif and seasonally adjusted) slipped from 113 per cent to 102 per cent in Britain and rose from 84 per cent to 89 per cent in France. Between December and January it was unchanged in West Germany at 102 per cent but rose to 104 per cent in February, and fell from 89 per cent in Italy.



On the basis of a calculation comparing November, December and January with the previous three months, industrial output has been declining more slowly in France (minus 2 per cent), Italy (minus 3 per cent) and Britain (minus 6 per cent), but not in West Germany (minus 6 per cent).



Between January and Febru[...] the unemployment rate, [...]pressed as a proportion of t[...] working population and sea[...]nally adjusted, rose from 4[...] per cent to 4.65 per cent in We[...] Germany, from 7.25 per cent [...] 7.45 per cent in France an[...] from 9.2 per cent to 9.5 per ce[...] in Britain.

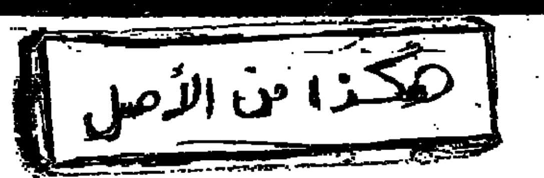
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Protectionism in America

Japanese cars may have to brake at import barriers

Despite the many vows that free trade will be upheld, a cry for protectionist measures invariably sweeps through the United States whenever home industries have overreached themselves or there is a downward trend in the economy. Imported Japanese cars are the latest products to be pilloried. And it was only a short while ago that the United States Government brought in artificial barriers against imports of textiles, clothing, high-grade steel, colour television sets, electronic goods, leather footwear, sugar and carbon steel.

Demand for compartmentation is traditional in the United States. The United States processing industry grew up behind a wall of protective tariffs. The Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act signed by President Hoover in 1929 plunged America and the rest of the world into the Great Depression. After 1945, in the absence of foreign competition, the United States could safely reintroduce a policy of free trade. This lasted until 1971, when President Nixon imposed a 10 per cent import duty overnight.

Bets are being laid in Washington that the necessary preparations have already been made for an all-out assault against the flood of Japanese car imports. So far, however, only the outward trappings are involved. Since, under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), unilateral restrictions on trade are outlawed, the Reagan Administration is thinking in terms of an Orderly Market Agreement (OMA), whereby Tokyo would undertake to restrict exports to the United States to a specific volume for a specified period of time.

Voluntary restraint, or orderly marketing, agreements of this kind, which incidentally are an American invention, have worked well for Washington in the past. With the exercise of sufficient pressure all foreign governments have proved amenable. Japan has already carried out a number of such agreements.

But Congress is urging tougher measures. The stage when Detroit's own faulty planning alone was blamed for the fatal decline in sales is long since past. All those concerned in government have taken fright, which in view of the high level of unemployment and the huge losses suffered by the four United States car companies ($4,200m in 1980, and still probably $500m in 1981) is not surprising. The sword of Damocles is hanging over Chrysler in particular, which has already been compelled to ask for government credits amounting to $1,200m.

Two Bills are now on the debating list which vie with each other in the severity of their proposals. One has been submitted by Senators Danforth and Bentsen, a Republican-Democrat partnership, which proposes a unilateral limitation on Japanese imports by the United States Government. Under the terms of this Bill, Japan is required to reduce its exports by 15 per cent for the next three years, so that instead of 1,900,000 cars, imported into the United States in 1980, the permitted volume would drop to 1,600,000.

The other Bill, put forward by Congressmen Brodhead and Hillis, envisages an import quota for 1981-83 of 1,200,000 units. After that, the Japanese would be permitted to add a further 5 per cent in volume, making the maximum total about 1,260,000 and 1,350,000 units for 1984 and 1985 respectively. Such a quota restriction could also affect exports from Europe. But this would apply to the base year.

In introducing these Bills their sponsors pleaded that the dire straits in which Detroit is placed call for exceptional measures. The United States motor industry, which needs $80,000m to finance projects for conversion to small-car production by 1985, should be given the opportunity, they claim, to adapt itself to the changed circumstances of competition.

There is also a fear on Capitol Hill that the continual rise in fuel costs in the United States could lead to even greater demand for the little cars from Japan. In January alone the Japanese exported 551,539 cars to the United States — 33 per cent more than for the corresponding month last year.

Moreover, Congress is also looking with some concern to Europe. It believes — and the same applies in reverse — that if the EEC decides to impose official restrictions there could be a new surge of Japanese exports to the American market. Mr Philip Caldwell, the president of the Ford Motor Company, has been stirring up feelings with references to the unilateral restrictions on Japanese imports that Britain, Italy and France have already introduced, and to the fact that the duty on imported cars levied by the Community is three times as high as that imposed in America.

Two members of President Reagan's Cabinet, Mr Baldrige and Mr Lewis, the Secretaries of Commerce and Transportation, are backing Congress's proposals with the argument that under the Administration's depreciation scheduling it will be three years before Detroit receives any active assistance. Opposed to them, as exponents of free trade, are the President himself, his chief economic adviser Mr Weidenbaum, Mr Stockman, the Budget Director, and Mr Donald Regan, the Finance Secretary, all of whom have given warning against the inflationary consequences of compartmentation. They clearly fear a chain reaction throughout America.

Domestic policy considerations, meanwhile, will tip the scales. It seems probable that Washington and Tokyo will conclude an orderly market agreement before Congress can get down to business. A document will be signed during the forthcoming visit of Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, in May, which will probably limit imports of Japanese cars to 1,700,000 a year. But voluntary OMAs are still an unadulterated form of protectionism.

Horst Alexander Siebert

Food markets

Cooperation still elusive

The recent extension of the 1971 International Wheat Agreement (the sixth such extension, for two years on this occasion) clearly reflects the inability of the large agricultural producers to make progress in cooperating on the administration of markets. The change of government in Washington adds to the uncertainty over the prospects for the conclusion of further agreements.

As far as relations between the United States and the European Economic Community are concerned, wheat is an interesting example in that it *illustrates the fundamental* conflict of interests between the two economic powers, both with their own volumes of production and exports, and each reluctant to accept an agreement which would constrain the other.

The United States is the world's biggest exporter of food and agricultural produce, followed by France and The Netherlands. It is also the second largest importer, after West Germany and ahead of Britain and Japan. However, the EEC as a whole is at one and the same time the Americans' foremost customer and a permanent exporter of certain products (sugar, cereals and dairy produce) to markets where the United States also intends to operate.

This may look like a trade power struggle between two blocks, but in practice the EEC is fettered by the nature of its imports from the United States, the bulk of which is accounted for by proteins (maize and soya) of vital importance to European stock-breeders.

In 1973, when the Nixon Administration placed an embargo on soya exports, the effects in Europe were more psychological than economic. Importers had the weakness of their position brought home to them, but the two-month embargo itself did not result in any substantial reduction in exports of soya bean oil-cake or seed.

Since that time, however, the export of food and agricultural produce has become both a national duty and an instrument of world strategy for the United States, whereas previously it had served primarily as a means of regulating domestic prices. Rather than declare embargoes of doubtful efficacy, the United States has campaigned consistently for the lowering of customs and non-tariff barriers.

It has had a fair measure of success since, at the last Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations, it was able to defend its own protectionist measures against imports of dairy produce, while managing to have the zero rate of customs duty on soya imports confirmed and also making a breach in the EEC tariff barriers to secure the right to export "high quality" beef and veal, thereby pointing the way to other meat-producing countries.

The strategy of the United States towards Europe is fairly simple, coming down to obstructing EEC exports and promoting its own, but it is made to seem more complicated by the camouflage of diplomatic language. On both sides of the Atlantic, much play is made with the meaning of words.

Granted our agricultural systems are not comparable. But the Americans talk of export subsidies and customs barriers, where the Europeans refer to a Community system of protection for producers and consumers. What the Community calls export aids and subsidies for producers are described by the United States as normal arrangements for credit and market stabilization to maintain prices or producers' incomes.

The differences between the Carter and Reagan administrations on this subject are probably not as great as the electoral campaign might have suggested. The role of government, according to President Reagan, is to create the conditions for free competition. The Republican Government team does not favour bilateral agreements, except with the centralized-economy countries, which represent a substantial proportion of American export markets, and it has maintained the export credo.

The resources of the Commodity Credit Corporation have been strengthened and the continuation of the embargo on exports of cereals to the Soviet Union itself still seems to be more of an inconvenience to the European countries involved than to the United States. Did not Mr Bob Bergland, Secretary of Agriculture under Mr Carter, admit on leaving office that American exports to Eastern Europe, especially East Germany and Czechoslovakia, had actually increased?

The slight tendency towards an alignment between world prices and European prices could help to make the Americans less critical of European protectionism. Unless, that is, the narrowing margins fan competition in world trade.

Jacques Grall

Translating costs rise

Machines take over the drudgery

"The only major project of its kind in the world . . the Eurotra project is at the frontier of current human knowledge." This description of a proposed European system for computerized or machine translation comes not from its promoters, but from the European Parliament's Patterson report on the "problems arising from the multilingualism of the European Community".

To finance Eurotra the European Commission is seeking £6m from EEC institutions and national governments - a small sum compared to the cost of the Community's unique multilingualism and the worldwide investment in machine translation.

The EEC has seven official languages, two more than the United Nations. All are equal. Under the Treaty of Rome, legislation and major documents appear in all seven languages and sometimes also in Irish. Language-related costs — translating, interpreting and back-up services — account for more than 40 per cent of the cost of administering the Community (60 per cent in the case of the Council and Parliament). They totalled £170m in 1979 and are rising constantly, with a 10 per cent annual increase in papers translated, and a greater jump with every new official language.

Last year each of six languages was translated and interpreted into the other five, making 30 language pairs. Now Greek gives seven times six, or 42 pairs, and soon Spain and Portugal are likely to make that . For many pairs (Danish to Greek, for instance) enough competent linguists do not even exist.

The reason for this high ideal of Community multilingualism has been well expressed by the Dutch head of the Commission's translators in Luxembourg, Albert Bachrach. Recognize a country's language, and you will perhaps respect that country, rather than invade it; impose your language on it, and you invade without even noticing.

The cost and inconvenience are appalling. However, almost alternatives would favour two or more of the big four (French, English, German, Italian) at the expense of the other languages. (An exception is a suggestion that all speak French or English, justice being ensured by making the French speak English and the English speak French.) The Commission was therefore forced to seek more acceptable ways of mitigating the difficulty and have been investigating practical aids, including machine translation.

Machine translation (MT) is a notorious area. The Russian for "we demand peace" was once translated "we require world".

An adverse government report in 1966 almost killed United States research into fully automatic high-quality translation. Yet pockets of research persisted, usually on tiny budgets, kept alive by the need for scientific and technical information, Quebec's demand for French translations, or the translation of Mormon texts into hundreds of languages.

One of the resulting systems, Systran, was bought by the European Commission in 1976. Alone of Systran's customers, the Commission does development work on the system, which has therefore much improved.

In 1977, however, the European Commission decided to use the MT skill in European universities (Grenoble, Saarbrücken, Essex, Pisa and others) in an advanced project, now known as Eurotra.

Some 60 academics from eight EEC countries have been working on Eurotra since 1978. Inside the Commission, Serge Perschke is head of MT; outside, in neutral Geneva, Maggie King coordinates. The group has made some progress on very limited funds, and if the £6m budget is approved soon, hopes to have a pilot scheme ready in 1983 and a full-scale prototype in 1986. The pilot is to translate Commission texts of 10,000 words between a limited number of languages in one subject area. Later Eurotra, like Systran, should be available on the Euronet-Diane information network and to EEC government bodies and universities.

The basic strategy of Eurotra is to have a transfer module for each language pair, but only one input (analysis) and output (synthesis) module for each language (to be plugged into the transfer module required). Work to date has concentrated on agreeing structures for the interfaces between the modules.

Systran, though not good by human standards, is operational and improving. Why, then, is Eurotra wanted? Maggie King recently gave the following reasons: Systran is not good enough, and may never be: its static and dynamic parts — data and the actions performed on it — are inextricable, faults are hard to locate and to eliminate without unfortunate side effects.

Eurotra, by contrast, will be modular, that is broken up into well-defined sections, each one with its task clearly known. Easier to de-bug, it should also allow new modules (for EEC languages now undreamt of) to be "plugged in" quite easily.

Each Systran system translates only from one source language to one target language, so that the EEC's present 42 language pairs demand a number of these one-to-one Systrans, but only one many-to-many Eurotra. The projected system will be more readily portable from computer to computer. It will incorporate the advances of the decade since Systran appeared. Better still, its greater modularity will enable it to absorb the results of future research, and this, the Commission believes, will in turn stimulate such research and help Europe to retain a lead in this.

Competition is keen, particularly in Asia, the Soviet Union and North America. And not all research is done on the systems listed in the tables. There is much other investment in MT and related subjects (linguistics, artificial intelligence and computing). It is probably significant that Japan, which is now working very hard on information technology, is sending 10 industrialists to view European MT this month.

Finally, what of human translation? "Computers threaten translators' jobs", a scientific weekly wrote last year — of a system which promptly collapsed. Those of us who get to grips with the computer soon see that good translators have little to fear. Machine translation, such as Eurotra in due course, will supply fast cheap translations, often to people who would otherwise have no translations at all. By eliminating drudgery and routine, it would free translators to do the difficult, interesting work which they alone can do.

Veronica Lawson
translator and consultant, London

Machine translation systems

These or their translations are commercially available.

GEORGETOWN (US)
First MT (Washington DC 1954). The 1969 version used still by Atomic Energy commission and till 1976 by Euratom in Ispra, Italy.

SYSTRAN (US)
Developed after Georgetown for big IBM 360/70 computer. Relative linguistic advancement. Bases in North and South America, Munich, Japan. $10,000 a month to lease.

LOGOS (US)
Promising. Unfortunately began on Vietnamese and Farsi. Now French, working on German.

CULT (Hongkong)
Machine-translates China's maths journals and sells the printout to libraries world wide.

VINITI/VCN — TIiD (Soviet Union)
Translates patents. One of various systems in Soviet Union.

WEIDNER (US)
Marketed as aid for translators. For sale (from £80,000), lease or rent in North America, Europe and Japan. Just gone public.

ALPS (US)
New commercial offshoot of Brigham Young University's MT. Some similarity to Weidner, but with preediting of text.

TITUS (France)
Abstracts drafted in limited syntax are translated into several languages simultaneously. Developed by Institut Textile de France, used by various countries.

METEO (Canada)
Translates 85% of sentences in weather forecasts.

Who has them

Present Systran and Weidner installations, including some still experimental but excluding those undergoing only preliminary tests.

LUXEMBOURG
European Commission (see text)
Informalux (new bureau service, also for Belgium)

GERMANY
BOTS (translation agency, Munich)

UNITED STATES
Government agencies (Army, Air Force)
Xerox Corp (Webster)
Inter-American Development Bank (Washington)
Princeton International (translation agency, Boston)
Siemens (Florida)
Computer Science Corp (time sharing, Los Angeles)

CANADA
General Motors
Bell-Northeastern Research
Computrans (offering bureau Service)
Simpson Sears (stores)
Mitel (telecommunications, Ottawa, in electronic publishing system)

JAPAN
Bravice International (translation agency, Tokyo)

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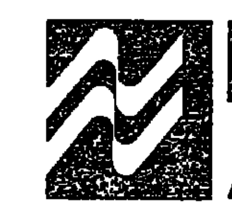
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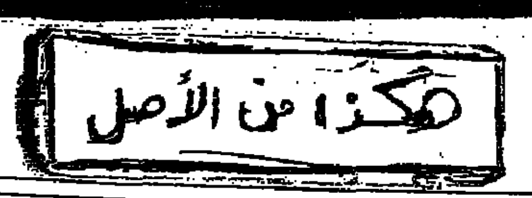
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MR HAIG SHOULD SOLDIER ON

Attempts on the life of the President of the United States are, tragically, something that both Americans and the rest of the world have to learn to expect. The attempt on President Reagan has shown that the American government system, despite the occasional slip-up, can handle immediate inevitable crisis—that of authority. But it has also shown another side of Washington's political life, the never-ending struggle for influence and the in-fighting to which it leads. In the aftermath of last week's shooting, the emphasis has been much less on the way in which continuity was achieved during a few tense hours on Monday afternoon than on the behaviour of Mr Haig, the Secretary of State. Mr Haig has been sharply criticized for his statement on television that he was in control at the White House pending the return from Texas of Vice-President Bush; and for the fact that at a time when he was ostensibly trying to provide reassurance, he was himself under obvious nervous strain.

There is no question that Mr Haig is an inordinately ambitious man who may well have presidential aspirations himself—he is seen as "a man on horseback". It is also true that by saying that he was in control he could have appeared to be encroaching on the territory of Mr Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence. When it comes to the armed forces, the line of command in an emergency goes from the President to the Vice-President, and from the Vice-President to the Secretary of Defence. But Mr Haig was in fact in charge of the situation room in the White House for a time, until Mr Bush arrived, and the subsequent outcry apparently had more to do with attempts to cut Mr Haig down to size than with any very serious impropriety on his part. He did have differences with Mr Weinberger. But coming as it did after the recent row over who should be chairman of the crisis management committee appointed by Mr Reagan, the incident has made him appear to be hungry for power.

Such things are important in Washington, and Mr Haig should have been aware of that. After a time when he appeared to be carrying all before him, and to be achieving a position in which he could have a more or less free hand in foreign policy, he has now had two serious setbacks. He has in fact overreached himself in some ways and political opponents on the right of the American spectrum, who backed Mr Reagan for the presidency but find Mr Haig altogether too moderate for their taste, have notably seized the opportunity. It is not too late for Mr Haig to recover. He is a forceful in-fighter himself. But for a time, at least, he is going to find it that much harder to put his own stamp on foreign policy.

There is, however, no reason for him to resign, and it is to be hoped that he will not. He has considerable backing in Congress and in American public opinion generally. After the row over the crisis management committee Mr Reagan publicly expressed his continued support. In an Administration where there are strong voices for a simplistic and ideological view of foreign affairs, his is one of the few in favour of a more pragmatic and realistic approach, in the Middle East and elsewhere. He has, after all, spent some time in Europe, where he was the Supreme Allied Commander, and has a good grasp of European attitudes. He should not be faulted for believing, that Monday afternoon, that people should be reassured about what was happening. It is to be hoped that his authority will be intact as he travels in the Middle East. A strong but sensitive American policy is more important than a few ruffled feathers in Washington.

THE STRAINS OF YUGOSLAVIA WITHOUT TITO

The declaration of a state of emergency in the autonomous region of Kosovo has brought Yuglosavia face to face with the strains of the post-Tito era. It is nearly a year since Marshal Tito died, leaving the country bereft of the kind of strong leadership which centred on his personality for over thirty years. Yugoslavia is made up of six national republics and two autonomous regions, and Tito alone—in his lifetime—was able to impose a broad national identity on these disparate cultures.

Kosovo embodies the contradictions of Yugoslav society. Inhabited by Albanians, it is part of the Republic of Serbia, but has the status of an autonomous region. This arrangement worked well enough under Tito, with occasional hiccups. But in the last year cracks have begun to appear. Serious unrest broke out last month among Albanian students in Pristina, the capital of the Kosovo region, and there were further disturbances in other towns, with loss of life. Martial law is still in force throughout Kosovo, with the Yugoslav Army in control of public buildings. The streets of Pristina are apparently calm, but the authorities have called for "vigilance" in case rioting breaks out again.

The system of collective leadership evolved by Tito to ensure continuity and stability has until now held up remarkably well. Power is rotated both within the Communist Party and within the State Presidency. The army is still a unifying force, cutting across national and regional boundaries, and focusing attention on the need for a federal consensus in the interests of national defence.

But Kosovo is not the only source of latent tension. There have been sporadic tests of strength between the central authorities and nationalists in Croatia. Croatia is the second largest republic in the federation (after Serbia), and has an influential Catholic establishment. Archbishop Franjo Kuharic of Zagreb recently attacked the Government for suppressing a petition requesting an amnesty for Croatian political prisoners. A leading Croatian nationalist, Mr Franjo Tudjman, was given a three year prison sentence in February for "hostile propaganda against the state".

The Yugoslav leadership also faces severe economic problems. Inflation is running at an annual rate of over 30 per cent, with worse predicted. Coupled with a fall in real wages, this has led to vocal grumblings of discontent. Yugoslavia's economic planners were praised by the OECD last year for their efforts to maintain a high growth rate while fighting to keep inflation down and improve the balance of payments. The fact remains that the man in the street is feeling the pinch, and some Yugoslav economists privately warn that inflation could reach 80 or even 90 per cent by the end of this year.

The crucial test for Tito's successors could arise at the point where these nationalist ambitions and economic strains coincide. To some extent they already do. Under Yugoslavia's federal system, the richer republics are obliged to give aid to the poorer areas, and this can—and does—give rise to feelings of resentment. Kosovo is one of the poorer regions of Yugoslavia, and has received large injections of cash from more prosperous parts of the country. The allegation that these funds have been misused or frittered away is partly justified, partly not, but has in any case fuelled the kind of internal feuding President Tito sought to avoid.

The one factor which has always held Yugoslavia together in the past is the sure knowledge that any signs of internal weakness will be exploited by the Soviet Union. The current crisis over Soviet intentions toward Poland will certainly have the effect of stiffening Yugoslav resolve, and will strengthen the tendency to pull together in the face of a common threat. On the other hand, Yugoslav leaders are unwilling to be seen to endorse the Polish experiment of free trade unionism within a Communist framework. Liberal though the Yugoslav framework already is, Communist rulers anywhere find it difficult to adapt to anything which appears to challenge their monopoly of power within the one party state. The fact that Yugoslavia, like Poland, has a strong Catholic Church is clearly an added cause for concern in Belgrade. Tito's heirs can be expected to continue to place emphasis on the Soviet threat while at the same time trying to contain any Yugoslav desire to emulate the Polish example.

WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE YOUR FATHER?

It did we all spot the extra questions hidden behind those deceptive demi-pages which did not reach the top? It will not necessarily mean a £50 fine if we missed them, because the investigator—the enumerator, that is—will check the replies as she collects them, and ask us to fill in gaps. The census-takers are careful not to court the public suspicion and hostility which perennially threatens to frustrate their work. They can probably be relatively satisfied with the way the 1981 census has passed off, unless some unsuspected well of dumb insolence reveals itself when the returns are counted.

The 1971 census was a far more contentious affair. The Liberal Party and some spokesmen for racial minorities made a to-do about privacy and the possibility that confidential information might be passed to the police or the Inland Revenue. Acrimony is normal: even the commissioners compiling the Doomesday Book met with great popular resentment on their travels—and it took more than the little geese to deter enumerators in those days. The British being both governable and apt to grumble, we have acquiesced in the decennial chore for 180 years, but always so grudgingly as to discourage the inquisitors from lengthening the tally of questions unduly.

That strikes roughly the right balance. Census-taking would rapidly lose credit if it became apparent that information about identifiable individuals was not efficiently protected, or that the questions were not all relevant to some central matter of social policy. There is no visible cause for doubt about security, and there were, if anything, too few questions rather than too many. Even in these days of sample polls and General Household Surveys the comprehensive data gathered on a consistent basis in successive censuses is an essential foundation for much official planning and grant-distributing. Evidence scooped up from a voluntary sample can reveal much, but the basic facts have to be established with more precision.

For those householders who sat down for a cosy evening of self-revelation, the census must even have appeared disappointingly curt, with an obsessive interest in flush toilets and professional diplomas leaving little scope for the delineation of a personal life-style. A few questions asked ten years ago were omitted this time, and the much-debated question about ethnic origin was not posed. In the latter omission, the investigators were unduly timid. The published evidence from a sample test that they did in Haringey did not show that such a question was widely unacceptable among racial minorities, and the Commission for Racial Equality and other organizations working in the field agree that the information would have been useful. In the United States, where the rights of the individual in respect of firearms are so jealously protected, the householder is required (if he is among the one in five who receive the full-length census form) to give up a startling quantity of information about income, rent, and ethnic origin. Hispanic householders are asked questions which would certainly be of interest to border police patrolling the Rio Grande on the lookout for wetbacks, if they had access to them.

But in general our own catechisers are well advised to keep things short. Natural curiosity provides a quite strong enough impetus to the asking of many questions, and once the habit is acquired, it is not easily lost. The first Book of Chronicles recounts how King David conducted a census, at a time when a graver view was taken of such matters than today, and how a pestilence was visited on Israel to punish him. The king and his inner cabinet donned sackcloth to a man, and by energetic displays of contrition and diplomacy persuaded God to stay his hand. The chronicler records that as a result of the pestilence there fell of Israel 70,000 men. Someone, evidently, was still counting.

…bania and its gold

…m Mr Anton Logoreci

Discussing the complex issue of …ania's gold held in this country …d Bristol writes (April 1) that …g Leka had never abdicated and "left the country voluntarily …revent the certain possibility of …g executed or incarcerated by revolutionaries". In fact, he hardly in a position either to …icate or leave voluntarily for of possible dire consequences …ming from the revolutionaries. poor boy was only three days when his parents—King Zog and …en Geraldine—escaped with him …reece on April 7, 1939, when the …an fascist army marched into …ania. And it was only after King Zog died in France in April, 1961, that his only son proclaimed himself king.

Lord Bristol's contention that King Leka heads a legal Albanian government in exile and that the communist government in Albania itself is a "rebel" government is equally fanciful. No such government in exile exists, ie none that is recognized by anybody. And it seems quite pointless to say that the Albanian communist government is a rebel one, given the fact that it has been in power for over 36 years, is a member of the United Nations, and is recognized by a large number of other countries.

What would be more to the point would be to define the actual character of the regime. It is in fact a self-proclaimed Stalinist regime; the only communist regime in Europe which still reveres Stalin and all that he stood for, and also behaves accordingly.

Lastly, Lord Bristol says there are more Albanian refugees living abroad than there are Albanians in the country itself. This is also untrue. The present population of Albania is 2,670,000, whereas the number of post war refugees runs into a few thousand.

His Lordship could have hardly packed more howlers into a single letter if he had tried.

Yours sincerely,
ANTON LOGORECI,
18 Disraeli Gardens,
Fawe Park Road, SW15.
April 2.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The fight for a currency's health

From Lord Cromer

Sir, What a pity that Cambridge could only drum up 364 economists critical of the economic policy of the present Government. With only one more signatory they would have been in a position to publish an annual almanac complete, *no* doubt, with a different economic precept for every day of the year: perhaps with a supplement in leap years codifying the consensus aphorisms.

The battle against inflation, like all battles, is most unpleasant, and sadly not without casualties. The cancer of inflation has gone deeply in the system; just how deep has only been discovered since the Government seriously started to attack it. It is self-perpetuating and increasingly debilitating.

The mandate of the Prime Minister and her colleagues, with a remarkable plurality of votes, was to rid the country of this sickness and the Government has acted boldly in the attempt to restore health to the nation in so far as an honest currency is vital to a peaceable, prosperous and equitable future.

To believe in the need for integrity of the currency does not make a "monetarist": Lord Keynes had some pungent words on the consequence of debauch of the currency. We in our time have seen enough to recognize how right he was in this respect.

Those, therefore, who seek to subvert or frustrate the Government's efforts, either through academic pique at the failure of the "conventional wisdom" of recent years to maintain a stable pound at home, or through faltering courage, assume a heavy responsibility to put forward a credible alternative.

Can the motley of 364 do this? I have the honour to remain, Sir,
Yours, etc,
CROMER,
House of Lords.
April 4.

From Professor Amartya Sen, FBA

Sir, In describing the signatories to the recent statement against the Government's economic policy as "the lost generation of British economists who had succumbed to the teaching of Lord Keynes" (April 1) Professor Hayek is neither fair nor accurate. The criticism came from many quarters and not just from Keynesians—lost or not.

The defence of government policy increasingly seems to involve chastising the past economic advisers. I am not one, but I have to confess being impressed by the dual standard that this method permits. If the current policy succeeds, it shows how right it is, and if it does not, then—in Hayek's words—it only "reveals the damage that they [the past economic advisers] have done". Government policy, it appears, cannot possibly lose. Inflation down—*our* success. Output down, unemployment galloping, industry near collape—*their* failure.

The point has been made—I think with some justice—that it is wrong to criticize government policy when the critics themselves disagree on what would be the best alternative. But the best, on which views might well differ, need not be made the enemy of the agreed good. Napoleon would have been ill-advised to continue his Russian campaign just because of disagreement on the best route of withdrawal. There is, I believe, agreement among the critics on the immediate need for a less deflationary policy. There is a common understanding of the need to change the enormous restrictive pressure now exerted through monetary and fiscal policy on real output and employment. This is not, of course, enough. Serious pursuit of long-run improvement of British economic performance will require, in the judgment of many of us, substantial changes in economic organization and industrial relations. But we cannot begin to rise to the task until the single-minded concentration on monetary magic is rejected.

Professor Hayek claims that "only after inflation has been brought to a full stop can the market be expected to guide workers to jobs which can be maintained without accelerating inflation". There is no empirical evidence in favour of this proposition. Indeed, inflation has come to "a full stop" hardly in any modern economy, and despite that many of them have enjoyed sustained increases in employment and output without accelerating inflation. What is needed is less reliance on the wizardry of deflationary cure, and more deliberation and efforts directed towards purposeful institutional change.

Professor Hayek refers to "a panicky mob". The scale of the economic disaster makes panic difficult to avoid, but nevertheless Hayek is right to censure it. On the other hand, one may perhaps be forgiven for failing to admire the noble vision of unpanicked leaders going down with the whole vessel—defiant to the last, saluting the flag of a non-existent promised land.

Yours faithfully,
AMARTYA SEN,
All Souls College, Oxford.

The soul of Labour

From Mrs Jane Ewart-Biggs

Sir, I very much welcomed Geoffrey Smith's article, "What makes a Labour moderate stay on?" (March 27). Nevertheless, in my view, he failed to lay enough stress on the most important aspiration of the Labour Solidarity Campaign, and one which relates very closely to the electorate, this being the aspiration to remind Labour supporters that the party for which they have been voting in successive elections as the one representing their convictions does still exist. It has not disappeared, nor have those supporters been abandoned by it.

If, as Geoffrey Smith states when describing certain Labour members of Parliament, Labour moderates are saying that "the Labour Party can still be a serviceable vehicle for people of their persuasion", then, equally, should that party still retain the confidence and trust of supporters of the same persuasion? In spite of conflicts within it and defections from its ranks it nevertheless remains a party able to represent men and women with views based on realism and tolerance.

Yours faithfully,
JANE EWART-BIGGS,
31 Radnor Walk, SW3.

From Mr Leon Marks

Sir, As someone who left the Labour Party two years ago after 20 years of active membership and 10 years as a Labour councillor, I would no doubt have been expected to have been one of the first to join the Social Democratic Party by now, but I have not done so as yet because I have been waiting to see what its policy will be on issues that are critical to me, and, I suggest, millions of others.

From what it has declared on Nato and Europe, I trust and believe the SDP. On creating a mixed economy in which the private sector can survive (industry, commerce, health, education, etc), I am prepared to give it, temporarily, the benefit of the doubt.

But on the issue of the trade unions, so many of us do require nothing less than an open and honest declaration of intent by the SDP to reduce their powers and so-called "rights" by effective means. By outright opposition to the closed shop, support of "contracting in" provisions for the political levy, and effective restraints or intimidatory picketing (primary *or* secondary); by sensible limitations on the right to strike (surely long overdue—since it represents of course the ugly language of force with or without violence, brought to bear on vital and not so vital industries alike and far too much romanticized in the reality of the latter half of the twentieth century), and rebuttal of national blackmail generally. Without such determination, not one of their other policies has a real chance of working. The advent of the SDP will produce no lasting benefit to the nation and only further political disillusion.

I have no doubt that there is a broad national consensus (although of course no unanimity) in favour of all the above and other measures, but they can only be achieved politically by the SDP harnessing and activating this consensus by allying itself if only on this subject with at least one other major political party (which until now, for understandable but sad reasons, has proceeded very hesitantly in this area).

An SDP that, for all its fine words, represents just another political party to appease and ingratiate itself with the trade unions would be nauseating. We already have two such parties, one large, one small. We emphatically do not need a third.

Yes, it will require courage, but there is no honourable alternative. This will be the Social Democratic Party's greatest non-socialist test. Roy, David, Bill and Shirley: we are waiting for your statement on this issue.

Yours faithfully,
LEON MARKS,
79 Deacons Hill Road,
Elstree, Hertfordshire.

Vice-chancellorship

From Lord Scarman

Sir, I write in protest at the publication by *The Times* of two pieces (March 20 and April 1) by your Education Correspondent dealing with the work now in progress to find a successor to Lord Annan as Vice-Chancellor of the University of London.

The two pieces have done damage to the true interests of a great university, and have caused embarrassment, even distress, to individuals. I wish, through your columns, to apologize to Sir Alec Merrison, Sir Rex Richards, Professor Quirk and Lord Flowers for the breach of confidence (by whomsoever caused) which has made them the victims of a publicity which satisfies no interest save that of the gossip.

As I have made clear in and out of season, I believe that the law should recognize and protect the right of the journalist to conceal, in all but very exceptional circumstances, the sources of his information. I ask, therefore, no questions. But I would remind you, Sir, and your correspondent that the liberties of the press must be used responsibly and with a proper respect for the interests of others. You were within your rights in publishing the "leaked" information even though, as is common with leaks, it was neither complete nor wholly accurate.

But you have done the cause of press freedom, which we must continue to uphold, no good at all.

Yours faithfully,
SCARMAN,
House of Lords.
April 3.

Poland's food crisis

From Mr Jan Rostowski

Sir, In your report on Poland (March 30) you report that "The country has food for less than 12 days. . . ." There is no evidence whatever for such a view, except for statements by the Polish authorities. It is clearly useful to the Polish authorities that this should be believed, firstly, as a way of exerting pressure on Solidarity to call off the general strike, and secondly, as a justification for the use of force, should force be used, as having been necessary to ensure the physical survival of the nation.

Moreover, it has not been made clear just what is meant by the country having food for less than 12 days. Does it mean that food will run out in 12 days unless more is imported, or does it rather represent the amount of reserves readily available for distribution? In either case it must be remembered that Solidarity has always been ready to keep essential services functioning during strikes. During the four-hour warning strike last Friday the food industry and food shops were not called out.

The possibility that the Polish authorities themselves do not really consider the food situation as critical is indicated by their failure to provide Solidarity with detailed information on this matter, in spite of the fact that Solidarity asked for such information as long ago as September in connexion with the meat rationing scheme proposed by the authorities. This failure to divulge the necessary information to Solidarity has meant that Solidarity has not been able to approve the meat rationing scheme. Such approval was presumably in the authorities' interest, so failure to divulge the information necessary to obtain it is surprising. This secrecy is even more surprising now, when the food situation is claimed to be so desperate.

Yours faithfully,
JAN ROSTOWSKI,
Information Centre for Polish Affairs (UK),
115 Redston Road, N8.

JPs' choice in Civil Service strike

From Mr A. J. Brayshaw

Sir, The undertaking that is sworn or solemnly affirmed by all magistrates is that "I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second in the office of justice of the peace, and I will do right to all manner of people after the laws and usages of the realm without fear or favour, affection or ill-will".

No one is obliged to undertake this obligation but if he does then he must in conscience fulfil it. To serve in the office of justice means doing justice in the Queen's courts. If any JP refuses to do justice according to law through fear or favour of any pressure group of any kind he fails to honour his undertaking and unfits himself for his office.

In a conflict of loyalties justice must be above politics, not politics above justice; else is there no justice.

Yours sincerely,
A. J. BRAYSHAW,
Apple Trees,
Beech Road,
Haslemere, Surrey.
April 3.

From Miss Letty L. Lewenz

Sir, "Fiat justitia, ruat caelum". One would not wish Mr Stephen Bubb (April 3) or anyone else to act against conscience; but a magistrate should examine his or her conscience very carefully indeed before deciding that it required breach of the magisterial oath. Or do Mr Bubb and those who share his views consider that the oath should be amended by the addition of some such clause as "save in the event of industrial action in furtherance of a pay claim"?

This letter seems to bring out very clearly indeed the need for some hard thinking about ultimate and overriding loyalties—not only by magistrates but by us all.

Yours faithfully,
LETTY LEWENZ,
Orchard House,
40 Jessop's Lane,
Gedling, Nottingham.
April 4.

From Mrs O. C. Paynton

Sir, If Mr Bubb (April 3) feels his personal convictions prevent him from doing his duty as a JP he should resign, and for that I would respect him, because the oath he took to "do right by all manner of people" means not only to trade unionists—but others.

If a court sits and the public are there to get justice they have a right to it. If Mr Bubb feels his deeply held political convictions would not permit him to do so, he should not be a JP.

Yours sincerely,
OLIVE PAYNTON,
6 Eldon Grove, NW3.
April 3.

Appointment of bishops

From the Reverend Basil Watson

Sir, When your correspondent, Canon Paul Oestreicher (April 2), has frightened Synod into opting to become a minority sect it will surely be time enough for churchgoers to vote themselves the bishops they desire and deserve. While the Church of England, however, remains what its designation still implies it must be the clear duty of the politicians, as they seem to have done so successfully in the London appointment, to safeguard the non-ecclesiastically minded majority of Christians.

In its present form the Church of England is still too important an institution for the appointment of its bishops to be left in the hands of its deans and chapters.

Yours faithfully,
BASIL WATSON,
St Lawrence Jewry,
Next Guildhall, EC2.
April 4.

From Bishop Mervyn Stockwood

Sir, Your attempt, in your leading article (April 4), to sweep the London mitre under the Downing Street carpet is unlikely to escape the experienced eyes of Mother Church! I have three comments:

1. When I was appointed to the see of Southwark, on the advice of Mr Harold Macmillan, I had a courteous letter from a member of the cathedral chapter informing me that he had voted against me, not for personal reasons, but on principle. He believed that the state should not determine the choice of his future father-in-God. A number of my contemporaries received similar protests. I think that most of us had much sympathy with this viewpoint. In fact I wanted to ask for a vote of confidence from the parochial church councils of the diocese, but I was told that such a procedure was incompatible with the prerogatives of the Crown. It was in order to overcome these difficulties of conscience that the Church, after years of discussion, worked out a formula with the state.

As one who values the Establishment, I hoped that those who thought that the only solution was to be found in disestablishment would now be satisfied.

What has recently happened may well bring us back to square one. Indeed the position is a little worse. Formerly we knew we had no alternative but to accept the advice of the Prime Minister: today we imagined we were masters and stewards within our own household.

2. I accept the fact that the Prime Minister has observed the letter of the law, even though she has offended against the spirit. But in so doing she could place the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's in an embarrassing situation. They will meet to elect the new Bishop of London. Before they vote they will invoke the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It does not necessarily follow that the advice given from on high will correspond with the decision that has been made in Whitehall.

3. If Dr Leonard allows his name to go forward for election and he fails, the result for him would be as wounding as it would be sad. Moreover, even if he is elected, I should have thought that he would often be haunted by the realization that he was wearing a mitre that the Church willed to be on the head of one of his colleagues.

Yours faithfully,
✠MERVYN STOCKWOOD,
15 Sydney Buildings,
Bath,
Avon.
April 4.

Young offenders

From Mr B. Beaumont

Sir, The National Association of Probation Officers (Napo) was shocked by Mr Mayhew's revelation (report, March 24) that the tougher detention centre regimes operated at Send and New Hall are to be extended to two other centres (Foston Hall and Haslar). We had received no prior notification of this change and, so far as we have been able to ascertain, the decision was taken without any consultation with bodies, such as Napo, with first-hand experience of working with offenders.

When the tougher regimes were introduced last April our association was sceptical about the value of these changes and indeed questioned whether it was really possible to toughen up the existing harsh and disciplinarian regimes. We were, however, assured that the Government regarded the two centres as an "experiment" and that the new regimes would be carefully monitored to see if they were any more successful than the conventional centres.

In making his announcement Mr Mayhew apparently conceded that the results of monitoring would not be available until 1983 and yet the Government has now decided to extend its experiment without awaiting the inconvenience of those results.

Viewers of the television coverage of the announcement were shown the square-bashing, pointless parades and hard labour central to the "new" regime. They could be forgiven for concluding that there was nothing new in these developments and that this return to the bankrupt solution of authoritarianism is a policy of despair. Surely the people of this country will be prepared to support more imaginative and positive approaches to the problems posed by young offenders?

Yours faithfully,
B. BEAUMONT, Vice-Chairman,
National Association of Probation Officers,
Ambassador House, Brigstock Road,
Thornton Heath, Surrey.

George Eliot, feminist

From Mrs Jane Irwin

Sir, Jill Craigie (or Mrs Michael Foot) has written a cogent letter (April 1) about the Equal Opportunities Commission, but I regret that she begins by linking George Eliot with the Dulwich "blacklegs".

George Eliot never wrote a letter to *The Times* declaring that she had not suffered from unequal opportunities for women in education and employment. Her own success in a man's world did not make her complacent about opportunities for others. On the contrary, she supported the efforts of friends who were actively engaged in the feminist cause: publishing *The English Woman's Journal*, founding the Society for Promoting the Employment of Women, investigating workhouse schools for girls, and founding Girton College. She contributed financially to Girton College (and Newnham College received several substantial gifts from her widower), but her preferred method of promoting higher education for women was giving individual financial assistance to needy women students.

We should recognize that her personal circumstances made some public activities difficult. She could not sign any petition as "Mrs George Henry Lewes" while that name belonged legally to another woman who was alive and thriving on an income supplied in part from George Eliot's earnings as a novelist. Her best energies were devoted to writing, of course. We may well wish that she had supported women's suffrage; but she had doubts about giving women the right to vote in drunken and disorderly polls like that described in *Felix Holt*.

Her views about extending the franchise were conservative. But she does not deserve to be tarred with the same brush as those "blacklegs" who band together to protest the extension to other women of opportunities that they have been lucky enough to seize for themselves.

Yours faithfully,
JANE IRWIN,
97 Girton Road,
Cambridge.

Out for the count

From Mrs J. V. Crouch-Smith

Sir, How threatening official language can appear! A Spanish member of our domestic staff was recently expressing what seemed to me to be inordinate anxiety about completing her census form. Eventually the reason became clear. She had interpreted "form for making an individual return" as "form for making an individual return to her own country".

Yours faithfully,
JEAN CROUCH-SMITH,
Headmistress,
Tormead School,
Guildford, Surrey.
April 2.



COURT CIRCULAR

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 6: The Duke of Kent, as Patron of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, this evening attended a Charity Concert in aid of the William Pitts Memorial Fund, which was held at the Town Hall, Leeds.

Their Royal Highnesses, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, were attended by Captain Mark Bullough and Miss Carola Godman Irvine.

Prince Michael of Kent will visit the Motor Industry Research Association at Nuneaton, Warwickshire, on April 9.

The Duke of Kent will take the salute at the TAVR Parade at County Hall, London, on April 11.

Lord and Lady Butler of Saffron Walden regret they were unable to attend the service of thanksgiving for the life of the Hon Lady Fox on Saturday.

Mr and Mrs Henry Tiarks very much regret they were unable to attend the service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Edward Holland-Martin on Friday because of absence abroad.

Birthdays today

Lord Ashburton, 83; Sir Michael Blundell, 74; Sir Humphrey Browne, 70; Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, 68; Professor D. R. Denman, 70; Sir Harold Emmerson, 85; Mr David Frost, 42; Lord Glendevon, 69; Vice-Admiral Sir Arthur Hezlet, 67; Sir Hamish MacLaren, 83; Sir Ivo Mallet, 81; Mr Ian Richardson, 47; Lord Ross of Marnock, 70; Sir Thomas Holmes Sellors, 79; Sir Geoffrey Wilson, 71.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs John Paravicini was christened John Vincent Rudolph by the Rev Kenneth Batt at St Mary's Church, Preston Candover, on Wednesday, April 1. The godparents are Lord Bruce Dundas, Mr David Chaplin, Mr Charles Blackwell, Mrs Tresham Gregg and Miss Polly Phillimore.

Thanksgiving service

The Hon Lady Fox
A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Honourable Lady Fox and interment took place at St James's, Croxton, on April 4, 1981.

£10,000 bond winners

Winning numbers for £10,000 prizes in the April Premium Savings Bond draw, announced yesterday are:
7BP 850811 (The winner lives in Lancashire); 4FZ 285380 (Sheffield); 8XB 939625 (Dunbartonshire), 13XN 947243 (Essex); 4YL 646505 (London Borough of Barnet).



"And what are you getting all steamed up about?" was the Prince of Wales's quip to press photographers yesterday when he was shown the Geothermal Park at Tokoroa, in New Zealand.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon B. A. Foot and Miss S. J. Rudkin
The engagement is announced between Benjamin, youngest son of Lord and Lady Caradon, of Saint Cleer, Cornwall, and Sally, only daughter of Mrs F. H. Rudkin, of Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, and the late Major M. F. S. Rudkin, MC.

Mr N. R. D. Abbott and Miss D. A. Bailey
The engagement is announced between Neil Richard Donald, only son of Major and Mrs D. Abbott, of Pinner, Middlesex, and Denise Adrienne, elder daughter of Mrs J. P. Bailey, of Hastings, Sussex.

Mr S. C. D. Baynham and Miss J. Holgate
The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Simon Baynham, DERR, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs B. C. Baynham, of Whitchurch, Hampshire, and Janet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Holgate, of Morecambe, Lancashire.

Mr P. A. Fraser and Miss A. H. Gibbon
The engagement is announced between Anselm, son of Mr and Mrs A. H. Fraser, of Moniack Castle, Kirkhill, Inverness, and Antonia, daughter of Lieutenant-Col and Mrs T. H. Gibbon of The Field House, Sutton, West Sussex.

Mr C. J. P. Gratwicke and Miss J. V. Meyer
The engagement is announced between Charles James Philip, son of Major P. M. Gratwicke and the late Mrs Gratwicke, of Bognor Regis, Sussex, and Jane Vivian, daughter of the late Mr P. V. Meyer and Mrs Meyer, of Forest Hill, London.

Mr N. Waters and Miss C. Peters
The engagement is announced between Nigel, only son of Mr and Mrs J. Waters, of Atherton, Manchester, and Clare, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Peters, of 60 Scotts Lane, Bromley, Kent.

Dr W. R. C. Weir and Dr C. M. Jenkins
The engagement is announced between William Roderic Cameron, son of Mr and Mrs D. A. Weir, of Tadworth, Surrey, and Christine Margaret, elder daughter of Mr I. H. Jenkins and Dr Joan Jenkins, of Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Marriages

Major E. R. W. Robinson and Mrs P. C. Rudd
The marriage took place quietly in Cirencester on April 4 between Major Edwin Robinson, of Moor Wood, and Mrs Primrose Rudd, of West Street, Harwich. A service of blessing was held afterwards at St Margaret's, Bagendon. The Rev W. H. Woodhouse officiated.

Mr L. C. Dominguez and Mrs P. Morgan-Jones
The marriage took place on April 3, 1981, between Mr Luis C. Dominguez and Mrs Patricia Morgan-Jones.

Mr D. M. Warmington and Mrs E. Verdin
The marriage took place in Hampshire on April 5, 1981, between Mr David Marshall Warmington and Mrs Eileen Verdin (nee Johnston), both now of Mexico City.

Mr D. F. Badenoch and Miss M. P. Howard
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 4, 1981, at the Church of St Bartholomew-the-Less, Smithfield Gate, London, between Mr David Fraser Badenoch, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Alec Badenoch, and Miss Michèle Patricia Howard, younger daughter of Dr Patricia Thomas.

A reception was held at the Great Hall of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr A. J. N. Prichard and Miss H. J. Tucker
The marriage took place on Saturday, March 28, in Trinity Road Chapel, SW18, between Mr Andrew Prichard, elder son of Professor and Mrs B. N. C. Prichard, and Miss Helen Tucker, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Tucker.

Luncheons

Lieutenancy of Northumberland
The Duke of Northumberland was guest of honour at a luncheon yesterday at Gosforth Park given by the Deputy Lieutenants of Northumberland to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of his appointment as HM Lord Lieutenant of the county. Colonel Viscount Ridley, Vice-Lieutenant, presided.

HM Government
Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given in honour of the Burmese Minister of Industry, Brigadier-General Tint Swe, at 1 Carlton Gardens.

Dinners

Actuaries' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual dinner of the Actuaries' Company held at the Mansion House yesterday. They were received by the Master, who presided, and Mrs M. H. Oram, the Senior Warden and Mrs H. C. Cottrell and the Junior Warden and Mrs G. H. Ross-Goobey. The Master, the Lord Mayor, Miss Beryl Grey, Mr Derek G. Millard and Mr Leonard G. Hall were the speakers. Others present included:
The President of the Faculty of Actuaries of Scotland and Mrs McKinnon, Sir Alec and Lady Atkinson, Master of the Glass Sellers' Company and Lady Cunningham, Master of the Carmen's Company and Mrs Clarkson and Master of the Scientific Instrument Makers' Company, and Mrs Davies.

Lady Rowlandson
Sir Graham and Lady Rowlandson gave a dinner party yesterday at 47 Lowndes Square, Westminster, in honour of the doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, the High Commissioner for Mauritius, and Lady Teelock. Those present included:
The Ambassador of Oman and Mrs Habib, the Ambassador of Bahrain and Madame Al-Khalifa, Lord and Lady Cullen of Ashbourne and Lord and Lady Harris of High Cross.

Anglo-American Sporting Club
The Anglo-American Sporting Club held a boxing dinner evening at the Hilton hotel yesterday at which Mr Cornelius Boza Edwards and Mr Daley Thompson were the guests of honour. Rear-Admiral Sir Anthony Miers, VC, was in the chair, and the other speakers were Mr Walter Bartleman, Mr Ron Pickering, Mr Mike Spencer and Mr Kenneth Wolstenholme, secretary of the club.

Saints and Sinners Club
The Archbishop of Canterbury was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Saints and Sinners Club of London, held at the Savoy Hotel last night. Dr Runcie was received by Mr Graham Dowson chairman, and Mr Percy Hoskins, president. The other speakers were Judge Miskin, QC, and Mr Julian Tennant, who was elected chairman for the forthcoming year.

Bakers' Company
The Bakers' Company held a court meeting at Bakers' Hall yesterday. At a dinner held afterwards the Master, Sir Charles Taylor, presided, assisted by the Wardens. Lord Hill of Luton was the principal guest and Judge Bruce Campbell also spoke.

Today's engagements

Princess Margaret, president of the Royal Ballet, attends opening of four centuries of ballet costume exhibition to celebrate fiftieth anniversary of the Royal Ballet, Victoria and Albert Museum, 7.00.

The Duke of Gloucester visits Thames barrier project site, 10.30.

Talks: Zeus and Apollo, Patsy Vanags, 11.30; Fashion and beauty in the classical world, Anne Pearson, 1.15, British Museum; Life by his death, Christ's cross explained, Jonathan Fletcher, St Helen's, Bishopsgate, 12.25 and 1.05; Looking at our worship, Dr G. Huelin, St Margaret Patens, 1.10; Illustrated talk by Geoffrey Bush about his music, British Music Information Centre, Stratford Place, 7.30; Music in London 1550-1750, Handel at Vauxhall, Carole Patey, Victoria and Albert Museum, 1.15; Portraits of the honest spy: British diplomats in The Netherlands, John A. Sankey, National Portrait Gallery, 1; Social realism as a totalitarian art style, Igo Golomstock (in Russian), Pushkin House, Ladbroke Grove, 7.30; A golden age of piano playing, Wilfred van Wyck, British Institute of Recorded Sound, Exhibition Road, 7.30.

Exhibitions: Albert Houthuesen memorial exhibition of drawings and paintings, South London Art Gallery, Peckham Road, 10 to 6; Paintings by Lorraine Molins and sculpture by John McDonald, Air Gallery, Roseberry Avenue, 11 to 6.

Story shares memorial prize

The Sailor's Return, the story of an English sea captain and his African wife, transmitted by Thames Television last December, shares the 1980 Martin Luther King Memorial Prize with Maurice Nyagumbo's autobiography, *With The People*.

The annual award goes to literary works published or performed in Britain which are seen to reflect the ideals of Dr King. Mr Nyagumbo, whose book was published last June, was the Zimbabwean nationalist organizer who is now the country's Minister for Mines.

Dealer pays £31,531 for Tang 'fat lady'

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The Paris auctioneers, Oger-Dumont, were taken off their guard by an influx of foreign dealers for their sale of Chinese ceramics on Sunday and prices ran far beyond their expectations. Eskenazi, the London dealer, was the leading purchaser, but there were also other English, American and Japanese competitors.

A tall coloured figure of a "fat lady" dating from the Tang dynasty made the top price at 350,000 francs (estimate 80,000 to 120,000 francs) or £31,531. It stands 40cm high. The other top prices were also for Tang dynasty pieces; a green cylindrical pot on tripod feet made 250,000 francs (estimate 100,000 to 150,000 francs) or £22,523, and a blue globular urn brought 210,000 francs (estimate 80,000 to 120,000 francs) or £18,919. Right down the scale prices ran well beyond estimate.

It proved harder going yesterday, at Christie's in London where fine Continental porcelain was offered. With a total of £217,342, some 22 per cent was left unsold. The chief reason was lack of demand for middle quality German porcelain; two months ago prices were booming, but dealers are now apparently having difficulty in finding purchasers.

The star lot in the sale, a pair of Meissen figures of golden orioles, with Louis XV ormolu mounts, failed to find a buyer and was left unsold at £17,000 (estimate £15,000 to £18,000). Otherwise prices for items of special quality generally matched expectations.

Winifred Williams paid £11,000 (estimate £8,000 to £14,000) for a Chantilly figure of a *magot*, £8,000 (estimate £8,000 to £12,000) for a large Vincennes baluster pot-pourri vase with floral decoration, and £8,000 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000) for a Bottger brown stoneware teapot and cover of about 1715, the forerunner of Meissen porcelain.

A Christie's sale at the Brighton and Hove Engineerium saw a new auction record price paid for a steam engine model at £14,000 (estimate £12,000 to £14,000). It was bought by a private benefactor for pemanent display at the Engineerium, an engineering museum. The price was secured for a half size model steam engine, a Burrell "Devonshire", built by the South Dorset Engineering Company of Weymouth.

Spectacular garden planned

By a Correspondent

A spectacular new garden is being planned at Sutton Place, near Guildford, former home of the late Paul Getty, for the present tenant, Mr Stanley Seager, a Texan financier and patron of the arts. Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe, the landscape architect, is the designer.

There is already a nucleus of walled enclosures contemporary with the building and, leading from them, immense stretches of yew planted by Lady Hudson in the early 1900s.

The next stage will be the creation of a veritable oasis of fertility; clear lakes, fountains, shrubs, trees, flowery meadows and sculpture.

Sir Geoffrey insists the work is not a restoration but is a sympathetic modern extension of the spirit of the present layout.

The square of the old forecourt is being re-established. Box and lime avenues that once led up to it are being replanted.

A triangle of features inspired by twentieth century artists extends into the park, including a lake with a Henry Moore sculpture made for the setting, a sculpture wall behind a pool in the Dutch garden by Ben Nicholson, OM, and a series of pools and fountains.

The play of water and the natural forms of the rocks are designed to embody the spirit of a Graham Sutherland painting.

948 compete for bridge cup

By Our Bridge Correspondent

A record entry of 948 bridge players competed last weekend in the British mixed pairs championship for the Portland Club Cup.

There were four centres, at Glasgow, Harrogate, Droitwich and London, where scoring was calculated over the telephone involving 1,800,000 match points. In a close finish J. Holland and Michelle Brunner, from the North-west, just edged out the leading Scottish pair.

The winners had already been chosen as one pair of the team to represent Great Britain in the European Community mixed teams championship at Birmingham this month.

Results:
1. J. Holland, Miss M. Brunner 20,396; 2. H. Mahoney, Mrs M. Reid-Kerr 20,381; 3. R. L. Poulter, Mrs M. Bailey 20,251; 4. D. Kane, Mrs K. Frew 19,913; 5. Mr and Mrs P. Williams 19,780; 6. C. R. S. McCallum, Mrs R. Marlyn 19,771.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Akell, Mr Leslie William, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire £160,110
Barwell, Mr George Ralph, of Long Sutton, Lincolnshire £132,637
Carlisle, Mr Philip Edmund, of Alderley Edge, Cheshire, company director £149,163
Duckett, Mrs Doris, of Harrogate £150,364
Ledington, Mr Samuel, of Blakedown, Hereford and Worcester £201,340
Plaut, Mr Frederick, of Kilburn, London £218,980
Sedgwick, Mr Eric William, of Frensham, Surrey, company director £201,621
Turner, Mrs Rita Janice Mary, of Firbeck, South Yorkshire £223,042
Wood, Mr Paul, of South Croydon, Surrey, merchant £235,843

University news

Oxford
Elections:
QUEEN'S COLLEGE: Honorary fellowship: The Bishop of Ely, the Right Rev Peter Knight-Walker, DD.
ST ANTONY'S COLLEGE: Professorial fellowship: E. A. Roberts, MA.

Glasgow
Dr Lalage J. Bown, has been appointed director of adult and continuing education.

Edinburgh
Grants of almost £200,000 have been received for a cardiovascular research unit. The British Heart Foundation has given £85,000 and £15,000 a year; the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Cologne has given £31,500, the Scottish Home and Health Department nearly £25,000, and Astra Clinical Research more than £20,000.

Exeter
Honorary degrees will be conferred upon the following on July 9 and 10:
DLitt: Emeritus Professor Frank Barlow, professor of history, 1953-76; Jack Clemo, Cornish poet; Emeritus Professor Robert Niklaus, professor of French, 1956-75.
DSc: Professor P. G. Burke, FRS, professor of mathematical physics, Queen's University of Belfast; Emeritus Professor H. N. Rydon, professor of chemistry, 1957-77; Professor W. K. Hayman, FRS, professor of pure mathematics, Imperial College of Science and Technology.
MSc: A. G. Crouch, superintendent of grounds, 1960-79.
DLL: Sir Kelvin Spencer, Chief Scientist, Ministry of Power, 1954-59; R. S. J. Hookway, director of Countryside Commission.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, April 7, 1956

Lord Attlee honoured

Lord Attlee, who resigned the leadership of the Labour Party last December, has been appointed a Knight of the Garter. An announcement from Buckingham Palace last night stated: "The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Earl Attlee to be a Knight Commander of the Most Noble Order of the Garter". The order was founded by Edward III about 1348. The Queen is the sovereign of the order and the Garter is in her personal gift. Sir Winston Churchill and Sir Anthony Eden have become Knights of the Garter, the former in Coronation year, and the latter in 1954. Lord Attlee was granted an earldom when he gave up the leadership of the Parliamentary Labour Party which he had held for 20 years.

OBITUARY

DR ALICE EVANS
International work as botanist

Dr Alice Margaret Evans, University Lecturer in Applied Biology at Cambridge, and Fellow and Tutor of Wolfson College, died on March 26 at the age of 53.

Alice Evans, who came from farming stock, was born August 12, 1927, at Penderyn in Breconshire. She graduated and obtained a PhD degree at Aberystwyth, and took further training in Lund and Svalöf in Sweden. After researching for 14 years at the Welsh Plant Breeding Station, followed by two years lecturing at the University of Reading, she was appointed University Lecturer in Plant Breeding and Genetics in the Department of Applied Biology at Cambridge in 1966.

In Cambridge she developed a substantial and successful research programme in the genetics and breeding of *Phaseolus* beans, along three major lines: the collection of cultivars, primitive types and related wild species to establish a gene bank of international importance; a study of the needs of plant breeders in Third World countries and the supply of suitable genetic material to them; and a project to develop dwarf beans suitable for use in the United Kingdom.

Her work for Third World countries was supported by the Overseas Development Administration; she travelled extensively, and played a leading part in the international organization of breeding work on beans. She was a member of the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources, and of the Coordinating Committee of the Bean Improvement Co-operative. She also fired the imagination of her many research students, some of whom now serve in tropical countries.

For the United Kingdom, she studied market demand and chose the type suited to canning as baked beans. Superior varieties are now under test, but she did not live to see them in commercial production.

Because of her concern with the relevance of teaching to agriculture she took a leading part in bringing together the resources of the Department of Applied Biology, the Department of Genetics and the Plant Breeding Institute, to mount a one-year course for the MPhil degree.

Alice Evans's quiet and unassuming nature hid a mind that was imaginative and enterprising, and a capacity for work that gained for her the respect and admiration of agricultural botanists in the tropical world as well as in her home country.

She was elected to a Fellowship at Wolfson (then University) College in 1967. She served twice on the college council, and from 1976 she was a tutor. Her contribution to the college was considerable, and she earned the respect and affection of senior and junior members alike

THE HON LADY FOX

A.T.M. writes:

Lady Fox, whose death at her lovely home, Croxton Park, Huntingdon, has recenly been announced was a woman of many gifts.

Myra was primarily devoted to the English countryside, and to her own area in particular, where her forebears had lived for generations. She rebuilt over the past 25 years a splendid agricultural estate, which was a joy to visit, and a natural source of pride and love to its owner.

At Croxton she delighted to entertain her friends from abroad, from this country, and from nearby.

Her abilities were such that she was able at once to administer a successful estate and to be a constant hostess; she also found time to travel extensively over the globe, as well as keeping in touch with her social, farming and political interests.

Many will recall acts of kindness from Myra. Her generosity and joie de vivre will be missed over a wide field of all ages.

Rev E. N. PORTER GOFF

The Rev Eric Noel Porter Goff, Provost of Portsmouth from 1939 to 1972, died on April 4, at the age of 78.

The son of John Richards Goff, Canon of Kildare and rector of Portarlington, Ireland, he was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he was a scholar and took his BA. He was awarded a senior Moderatorship and a Gold Medal.

He was ordained in 1926, and held curacies at Immanuel, Streatham; Christ Church, Westminster; and St Michael's, Chester Square, London, before being appointed vicar of his old parish at Streatham. He held the living from 1933 to 1939 when he went to Portsmouth as Provost. He was for many years a Proctor in Convocation, and from 1948 to 1972 a Church Commissioner.

He married in 1926 Barbara Denman Hodgson, by whom he had two sons. His wife died in 1975.

Mr Cyril Conner, who died on April 4 at the age of 81, was head of Commonwealth and Foreign Relations, BBC, from 1941 to 1960. For a brief period in 1953 he was BBC Controller for Northern Ireland.

He was deputy chairman of West Sussex Quarter Sessions from 1963 to 1971, and chairman of the Rent Assessment Committee for Surrey and Sussex, 1966-73.

Mr Leslie Murray, one of the original British Movietone Newsreel cameramen, died on April 1. He later became editor of Universal News and Technical Manager of Visnews Ltd.

Lady Alness, widow of the first and last Baron Alness, PC, GBE, QC, died on March 14 at Bournemouth. She was Olga Marie, daughter of J. G. Grumler, and she married Lord Alness as his second wife in 1921. He died in 1955. She was 83.

Signor Franco Gentilini, the Italian painter, died on April 5 at the age of 71.

Hamdi Kan'an, who was mayor of Nablus on the West Bank of the Jordan, from 1967 to 1969, has died at the age of 60.

Major-General Richard Freeman Colwill, CBE, who died on March 14, was Major-General i/c Administration, HQ Central Command, India, 1946-47; and from 1948 to 1961 secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey.

Dr Frank James Fowler, CBE, FRCP, FFCM, who died on April 2 at the age of 69, was Senior Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Security, 1977-80.

Lady Branson, wife of Colonel Sir Douglas Branson, KBE, CB, DSO, MC, died on March 31. She was Ailie, widow of Brigadier J. M. Fisher, and daughter of Sir William Bell, and she married Sir Douglas Branson as his second wife in 1961.

The Right Rev Ilarino da Milano, the Italian prelate who was the Lenten Apostolic preacher to four Popes, died on April 6. He was 76.

Da Milano was appointed by Pope John XXIII to be Apostolic preacher during private Vatican Lenten services attended by the Pope and cardinals within the Curia. He held doctorates in theology, history, and ecclesiastical history, and taught at various Italian and pontifical universities.

SIR USUMAN NAGOGO

A.A.S. writes:

The death of Sir Usum Nagogo, Emir of Katsina, removed a most influential respected figure from the p lic life of Nigeria. For m than 50 years he had playe responsible and progres role in the affairs of the Northern Nigeria.

His father, the E Muhammadu Dikko, alv moved with the times a reliable exponent of the p ciples of Lugard's Dual M date, ruling wisely in acc with the requirements of Colonial Government, and the same time taking care the pace of administrative of educational progress, never too far ahead of gen acceptance.

"Nagogo", as he was a tionately known to two ge ations of British colo servants, was well schoole affairs during his father's time, and was a ready suc sor when the lot fell to hi the war years. One of his e undertakings was to fly to I to visit Nigerian troops ser with the West African Divi in Burma. This was a successful mission.

Open and eager as he in personal relationships, chief gift was a shrewd sensible rightmindedness.

By those who served Northern Nigeria he is not remembered as a remark keen and skilful polo pla At one time he and t brothers formed a team w usually was victorious in tournament it entered.

In 1956 he took part in exhibition game played in f of the Queen and the Duk Edinburgh. With his love of game went an exemplary for horses, and he was r influential in securing an African riders a more hun bit than horses had ever kn

Medical care had for been a vital interest Nagogo's family in the prog of the emirate. It is sad inc that in spite of coming to country for treatment in last illness this was of no a His old friends in Britain share with the Emir's fa and people their deep sor at his death.

MR DOUGLAS LOW

Lord Noel-Baker writes:

The death of Douglas Lo twice winner of the gold me in the 800 metres in Olympic Games (Paris 1 Amsterdam 1928), has come a severe blow to his m friends.

Lowe was often described "the perfect artist of track" and his superb gene ship in the final at Amsterd was never forgotten by th who saw it.

Lowe had a distinguish career in the law, both as barrister and as a judge; was a distinguished secret of the Amateur Athl Association; he was valued all who knew him for gentleness, his modest gen osity, his devotion to his lov Danish wife, and for his lightened service to the Sta

Captain the Hon Antho George Lowther, MBE, who d on March 24 at the age of was High Sheriff of Westm land in 1964, a Deputy Li tenant for Cumbria and a form Deputy Lieutenant for Westm land. He had been Master the Ullswater Foxhounds.

Dr Paul Francis Graing Pro Chancellor of Notting University, died on April 2. was president of the Institute Chartered Accountants England and Wales in 1961. leaves a widow, two sons and daughter.

Jacques Bataille, former Eu pean featherweight amate boxing champion, died Amiens, France, on April 4. was 51. He fought 140 times an amateur before turning pr fessional.

Law Report April 6 1981 — Court of Appea

Proving manslaughter without a body

Attorney General's Reference (No 4 of 1980)

Before Lord Justice Ackner, Mr Justice Tudor Evans and Mr Justice Drake
[Opinion delivered April 2]

If a person is killed by one or other of two or more acts by an assailant, each of which was sufficient to establish manslaughter if it caused the death, it is unnecessary in order to found a conviction for the Crown to prove which act caused the death. The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved opinion on a reference by the Attorney General under section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1972.

Mr Brian Walsh, QC, and Mr Keith Lawrence for the Attorney General; Mr James Chadwin, QC, and Mr Ashraf Khan (neither appeared below) for the respondent.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER said that the deceased was the accused's fiancée and they had lived together in a maisonette, the two floors being connected by two short flights of carpeted wooden stairs. She met her death on January 18, 1979, although the fact was not known until over three weeks later, when the accused informed a friend and subsequently gave varying accounts.

He made a detailed voluntary statement to the effect that he and the deceased had an argument on the landing, in the course of which each slapped the other, he seized and shook her hard, she dug her nails into him and he pushed her away instinctively causing her to fall backwards over the handrail, down the stairs head first on to the floor. He went downstairs immediately and found her motionless. On a very cursory examination he discovered no pulse and no sign of breath but frothy blood coming from her mouth. Almost immediately he dragged her upstairs by a rope tied round her neck, placed her in the bath and cut her neck with a penknife to let out the blood, having already decided to cut up her body and dispose of the pieces.

Later the police discovered evidence which corroborated his account of how, where and when he had cut up the body. They also found the saw he had used and the shopkeeper who had sold it to him. However, her body was never found, only some minute fragments of bone, discovered in maisonette.

There was, thus, no expert evidence as to the cause of death. She died, either as a result of being pushed and thus caused to fall backwards over the handrail on to the floor, or by being strangled with the rope, or having her throat cut. The Crown conceded that it was not possible to prove whether she died as the result of the "fall" downstairs or from what the accused did to her thereafter.

The indictment charged him with manslaughter; obstructing the coroner in the execution of his duty; and preventing the burial of a corpse, to which he pleaded guilty. The Crown offered no evidence on the second charge, and the trial proceeded on the manslaughter count.

At the close of the Crown's case counsel for the accused stated that he proposed to submit that on the facts proved there was no case capable of going to the jury. His contention was (a) it was not possible for the jury to be sure what caused the death and (b) whether the death was caused as a result of her "fall" or from what he subsequently did, believing her to be dead, in neither event was there a prima facie case of manslaughter.

The judge appeared to have been concerned at what he described as "an insuperable problem of sentencing" were the accused to be convicted of manslaughter. His view was that the real criminality of the accused's behaviour was in disposing of the body, a view which their Lordships were unable to accept. Those views of the judge appeared to have influenced his decision to withdraw the case from the jury and to direct an acquittal on the ground that the Crown had failed to prove the cause of death.

The reference raised a single and simple question—"If an accused kills another by one or other of two or more different acts each of which, if it caused the death, is a sufficient act to establish manslaughter, is it necessary in order to found a conviction to prove which act caused the death?"

The answer was "No, it is not necessary to found a conviction to prove which act caused the death". No authority was required to justify the answer, which was clear beyond argument, as was indeed immediately conceded by Mr Chadwin.

What went wrong was that counsel made jury points to the judge and not submissions of law. Counsel was in effect contending that the jury should not convict of manslaughter, if the death had resulted from the "fall", because the push which had projected the deceased over the hand-rail was a reflex and not a voluntary action, as a result of her digging her nails into him. If, however, she was still alive when he cut her throat, since he then genuinely believed her to be dead, having discovered neither pulse nor sign of breath, but frothy blood coming from her mouth, he could not be guilty of manslaughter because he had not behaved with gross criminal negligence.

Counsel and the judge unfortunately overlooked that there was material available to the jury which would have entitled them to have convicted him of manslaughter, whichever of the two sets of acts caused her death. It being common ground that she was killed by an act done to her by the accused and it being conceded that the jury could not be satisfied which was the act which caused the death, they should have been directed in the summing up to ask themselves:

"Are we satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the deceased's fall downstairs was the result of an intentional act by the accused which was unlawful and dangerous?" If the answer was "No", they would acquit. If the answer was "Yes", they would need to ask themselves a second question:

"Are we satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the act of cutting the girl's throat was an act of gross criminal negligence?" If the answer was "No", they would acquit. But if the answer was "Yes", the verdict would be guilty of manslaughter.

The jury would thus have been satisfied that, whichever act had killed the deceased, each was a sufficient act to establish the offence of manslaughter.

The facts of the case did not call for a "series of acts direction" following the principle in *Thabo Melli v R* ([1954] 1 WLR 228), and their Lordships had been deprived of the stimulating questions whether *R v Church* ([1966] 1 QB 59) correctly extended the principle to manslaughter, particularly to constructive manslaughter and, if so, whether that view was part of the ratio decidendi.

Solicitors: DPP; Sanderson, Kaye & Martin, Hull.

Six months too long by half

Regina v Scannell

A six months' period of detention should be imposed only in exceptional circumstances, Lord Justice Watkins said when giving judgment allowing an appeal by James Paul Patrick Scannell, aged 17, against a six months' sentence passed on him at Leeds Crown Court (Judge Dean) after pleading guilty to three offences of burglary.

HIS LORDSHIP, sitting in the Court of Appeal with Lord Justice Ackner and Mr Justice Michael Davies, added that it was generally regarded in detention centres that a period of six months was counter-productive. Those who had experienced six months' detention knew it to be repetitive periods of three months. There was nothing exceptional in the present case, and the period was reduced to three months.

Intervening in confidence

McC v McC

Mr Justice Wood, in wardship proceedings, granted leave to foster parents who had not met the mother of the ward to intervene in the proceedings and to seek leave to issue a summons for adoption.

His Lordship ordered that the foster parents could be referred to in the wardship proceedings as the second defendants, Mr and Mrs K, and that they could file their evidence as statements exhibited to affidavits. Those statements should not include anything which would identify them or the place where they lived.

The court indicated that the hearing of the wardship matter should be treated as a confidential matter and that the arrangements should be similar to the arrangements in a confidential adoption.



A welcome for everyone in brightly coloured space

alder
Mayor Gallery/
Waddington II

ack Smith :
ecent Paintings
ischer Fine Art

acqui Poncelet :
New Ceramics
rafts Council Gallery

arl Van Vechten :
intage Photographs
2 Duke Street Gallery

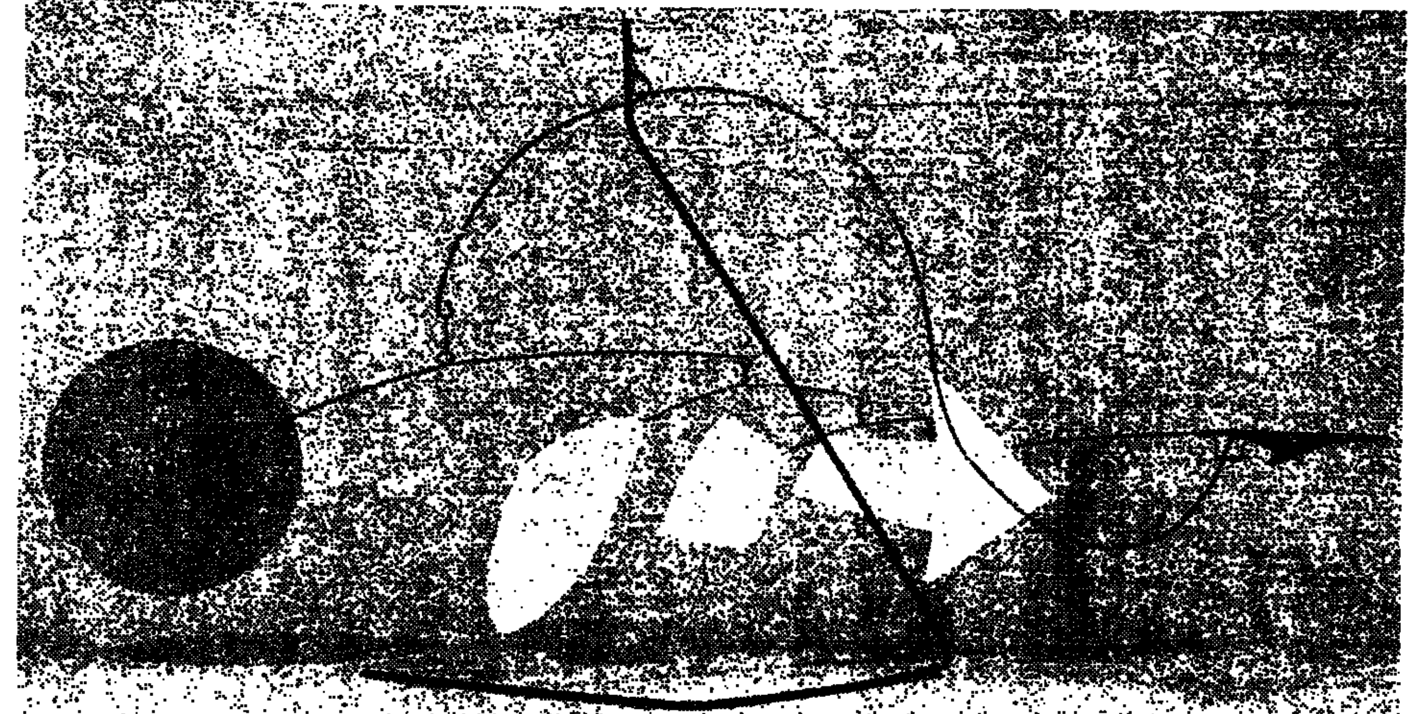
erbert List
notographers' Gallery

avis Boulton
ational Film Theatre

ough Fifties nostalgia is big the *moment* in other areas the arts and entertainments, time does not yet seem ite to have come in art per. We still look upon boo-rang-shaped coffee tables, ventry Cathedral, and the other creations of Bernard ffer or Mathieu or Reg dler with the equivocal, ppy indulgence of "Isn't it nderful, *it's* so awful". But is not so long ago that we l precisely the same attitude Victorian extravaganzas ich we now take very iously indeed, so perhaps preciation of the 1950s is eady creeping up on us un-ares. The other week I nd myself really, seriously rowing of some Hille furni-e at the Victoria and Albert ually created in Festival-of-tain year. And today I find self almost equally sur-sed to be enjoying as much I do the show of Calder biles at Waddington II and, ew doors down Cork Street, the Mayor Gallery until ril 25.

lot that all of Calder is onologically encampassed the 1950s. The earliest work the present show, a stabile ed *Kiki's Nose*, dates back 1932, and the most recent, *nty-three Snowflakes* and *quette for Wichita*, were le in 1975, the year before death. Nor can we even ly claim that he swam into ken in the 1950s: his first -man show in London was the Mayor Gallery in 1937. if every artist has his or ideal period, without doubt der's was the 1950s. From the start, his aesthetic was based on lightness, mobility and that spidery, spindly quality which has been appreciated above all during that decade. In the 1950s people thrilled for the first time to the aesthetic possibilities of structures without any visible means of support, painted forms which seemed to be outlined in wire, sculptures which took off with an almost audible flutter of tiny wings or hovered as mysteriously as flying saucers.

At which point Calder might well have said "I told you so". His *Mobile with Glass and String* of 1934, suspending in delicate balance morsels of coloured glass, anticipates completely the Fifties look—except that later on the suspended pieces of the mobile would also be streamlined in shapes suggesting the boomerang or aerodynamic diagrams. Since Calder remained true to his style, once established, for the rest of his life, during the last 10 years or so of it he seemed something of an anachronism, and it became difficult to look at his characteristic mobiles, or even the free-standing sheet-metal *Critters* with three or four legs which now so charmingly people the back room at the Mayor Gallery, without reducing them to fit a period pigeonhole. But time brings its revenges, and now I doubt if anyone entering either of these galleries can fail to feel a lift of delight at the brightly coloured constructions which move gently in the breeze about his head or nudge his elbow or engage in a stately mechanical dance to the tune of some hidden power. Light-hearted without being frivolous and elegant without affectation, Calder's works inhabit their own space, but make us all welcome in it.



An aesthetic of lightness and mobility : Calder's *White Arrow* (1971).

During the 1950s, Jack Smith was exhibiting at the Beaux Arts Gallery, and, as one might expect from the context, was very much the sort of realist critics of the time I liked to link With the kitchen sink. It was, of course, in its way a very Fiftyish thing to be. But with the 1960s his style changed completely, and he moved into the kind of abstraction he still practices today, as may be seen from the show of recent work now at Fischer Fine Art (until April 16). And yet, curiously enough, there is something rather Fiftyish about his abstractions, too. The little bars of yellow and red and black an blue which whirl and scatter over the geometrical grid of *Fractured I*, like matchsticks in a flooded gutter, are in Festival colours and have the right sort of down-with-Utility larkishness. Elsewhere the clusters of pins with coloured heads which bring a dimensional element into the paintings complete the physically—if not necessarily spiritually—lightweight effect.

But I must not push a fancy too far. Representational or abstract, Jack Smith knows his own mind and follows his own way, which is not necessarily bounded by any particular period. If his paintings look at times a bit like exploded Mondrians, their spirit is much closer to Dufy: an irrepressible pollity will keep breaking through. Much the same could be said of Jacqui Poncelet's latest pots at the Crafts Council Gallery (until May 15). The juxtaposition is not entirely random either: the patterns with which they are decorated, and the colours used in those patterns, have a more than passing resemblance to Jack Smith's and convey the same sort of dislocated cheerfulness. The shapes, this time, are mostly sliced-off or bitten-into ovals, with some even more Fiftyish free-forms thrown in—the angular cartons of ceramic seem for a moment to have been phased out.

The 1950s crop up, surprisingly, in the show of Carl Van Vechten's photographs at the 12 Duke Street Gallery until April 16. The surprise is that most people's associations with Van Vechten, fostered by the show's rather elaborate *mise en scène*, are of the 1920s and early 1930s—the time of his most famous novels, such as *Nigger Heaven* and *Peter Whiffle*. Indeed, it may come as an added surprise to many (of the few who have these days even heard of him) that he took photographs as well. But he did, and latterly, when his literary fame had faded, that was what he did more than anything else. Because of his fame in other areas, however, he had access to many literary lions who were not photographed by just anybody; while still in his eighties an abiding intrest in the young and the beautiful brought the young lions, the Marlon Brandos and Truman Capotes and all, into his view-finder too. Even at the last, there is a sort of engaging amateurishness about the pictures. But unlike Cecil Beaton, Van Vechten never lost his photographic innocence, and so the rather silly props and the transparent contrivance work almost as well as his occasional inspired simplicity.

No amateurishness whatever about the other classic twentieth-century photographer at present on show, Herbert List, an impressive selection of whose best work is on at the Photographers' Gallery in Great Newport Street (until April 26) to coincide with the publication of a finely produced and long-overdue book about his art from Thames and Hudson (£12.50). List seems to have had other interests in common with Van Vechten—a weakness for surrealist trimmings, a lot of muscular young flesh—but even his earliest, "amateur" photographs, taken when he was just feeling his way and filling up his personal snapshot album, have the unmistakable artist's eye for a cunning composition, for the sparkling interplay of light and surface textures.

It seems reasonable that he should have been a close friend of Hoyningen Huene, since his approach to photographing classical antiquity, or finding bizarre sights on the pale yellow sands of the surrealists, or constructing do-it-yourself Dalis and Chiricos in his studio, bears a striking resemblance to Hoyningen Huene's own, and they frequently worked in the 1930s for the same magazines. This is very much photographic art with a capital A—none of your grainy neo-realism for List, even when he is recording bomb-shattered Munich after the war—but for once it is fully able to live up to its pretensions.

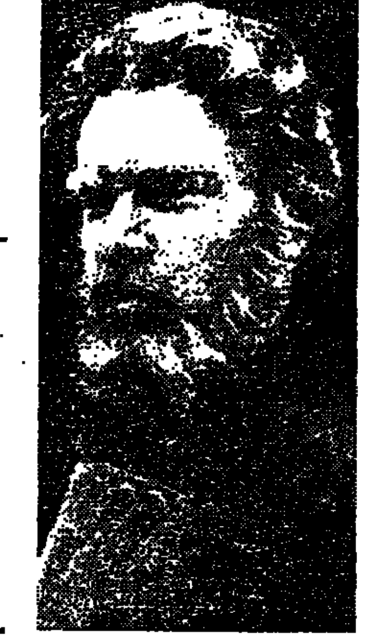
The present return to favour of photographers who revelled thus unashamedly in glamour and artifice has focused attention—thanks largely to the scholarship and enthusiasm of John Kobal—on that hitherto despised and virtually anonymous breed, the Hollywood portrait photographer. Davis Boulton, who is the subject of a small exhibition at the National Film Theatre (until the end of the month), was not exactly that, as he was working in British studios and combined, Britain being Britain, jobs which in Hollywood were completely distinct on-set stillsman and portrait photographer. And in fact the continuity which runs through his pictures from Hitchcock films at Gaumont British in the mid-1930s to the last lavish *Ben-Hur* in Rome is above all in his response to character.

There is, for instance, a classic image of Ralph Richardson from the prewar period, lolling on a wall like a discarded doll but keeping a watchful eye open; and later, from *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*, a superb Gielgud in severe mood. But he could also make beautiful women look beautiful and interesting women look interesting, and had a fine eye for oddity—the antic disproportions of *Tom Thumb* seen from the sidelines are well captured, and there is one weird image of giant legs ending in the empty air outside a *Ben-Hur* set which List would have been proud to create if he could not just, like Boulton, find it and pin it down for ever.

John Russell Taylor

Bartok's mystery Castle

The triple bill of all Bartok's stage works is tonight given in London for the first time. English National Opera and London Festival Ballet combine at the Coliseum to present *Duke Bluebeard's Castle, The Wooden Prince* and *The Miraculous Mandarin*. John Tomlinson (right) sings the demanding part of Bluebeard.



At the age of 19 and in the middle of studying for a civil engineering degree at Manchester University, John Tomlinson pinned a card up on the notice board of the Royal Manchester College of Music asking for singing lessons. Within five years he was a principal at Glyndebourne, after four more moved into the English National Opera in roles like Hagen, Leporello, Sarastro and Figaro, and made his debut in *Salome* at Covent Garden. Tonight, at the age of 34, he sings Bartok's Duke Bluebeard for the first time at the English National Opera.

His thoughts about the role reveal something of his approach to his own career. He understudied the part for the ENO production three years ago. "I've thought a tremendous amount about it since then. When I worked with Reginald Goodall on the role of Hagen for a whole year—his methods are slow, painstaking, years in advance of a performance—I realized how important a long preparation was for me. I now have very specific ideas about Bluebeard, though they are so deeply assimilated that it's harder than ever to be specific about them.

"The work is, after all, a complete mystery: no one should ever claim to have found its total meaning. Yet there aren't many roles where the character is so clearly drawn. Bluebeard's personality, his memory, if you like, is being opened up in stages from the first door, the torture chamber—the archetypal Bluebeard—through to the sixth door, the sea of tears. And there you realize that behind all the exteriors is a tremendous depth of sorrow.

"And he's a universal character. The relationship with Judith, contracted into 50 minutes, is a relationship between any man and woman who love each other. The opening of the doors is necessary, painful, joyful—and yet still more doors have to be opened. It's one of the few roles where you have to do a performance each time. I can't even rehearse without performing it: so much depends on the internal emotional score. But it's the music itself, although it's so complicated, that makes such an incredibly difficult task possible, and you're safe if you're always servant to it."

Offers of roles are toppling over each other for John Tomlinson now: "I feel as if I'm on a conveyor belt; the only time I ever feel like giving up is out of sheer exhaustion". But his energy is safely channelled by his approach to his work, which seems to be very much that of the philosopher-craftsman; reminiscent, indeed, of Hans Sachs, a role which he still feels uncertain about vocally (it is a higher, bass-baritone role), but which he is obviously drawn to and would love to sing in a few years' time.

"As a performer, you've got to give yourself the right environment in which to develop as an artist. If you get pigeon-holed as the serious, weighty bass of Sarastro, Wagner and Verdi, it can be very limiting." He left one singing teacher precisely because he felt he was becoming too bass-orientated: "It instinctively felt wrong; I've always insisted on not putting false quality into the voice, manufacturing a dark colour. It's an all-too-common yet quite wrong tendency for a young bass."

After six years on contract at the ENO, and *Salome*, *La Bohème* and *Simon Boccanegra* at Covent Garden, Tomlinson is now independent and free to choose in which direction he goes. "I'd like to keep working at the ENO as a guest—I treasure that. When the audience is understanding the words and there's a good cross-section socially, you're well on the way to finding what opera's about. I was afraid of going to Covent Garden and being tempted by one or two good roles then deteriorating into endless gardeners and second priests. So I've opted over the last five years to do bigger roles at ENO rather than smaller ones at Covent Garden."

But this summer he will be at the Royal Opera House doing Hobson in *Peter Grimes* and Masetto in the new *Don Giovanni*, with Ferrando in *Trovatore*, the Commendatore in Dr *Giovanni* and Ratcliffe in *Billy Budd* among at least eight roles there next season, with pencillings in his diary for 1983 when he also looks forward to a lot of work abroad. There will be Mozart's *Figaro* and Achillas in Handel's *Giulio Cesare* in Geneva, and another *Figaro* in Avignon.

Above all, Tomlinson will not be rushed, or rushed into specializing. "Ultimately, though, I feel my voice and personality are more northern than southern European. I'm looking forward immensely to Boris on the ENO tour next spring—and of course more Wagner. I believe very strongly that it would be dangerous to specialize in that now, but I've a feeling that when I'm 40 or so that may happen and I may then forget the *Figaros*."

Having worked on Strauss's *Ariadne* and *Salome*, and recently recorded *Guntram* for the BBC, he is full of excited apprehension at the thought of his first Baron Ochs in the next Glyndebourne touring season. "I just hope I'm cut out for it. I'm quite young, I haven't got a huge paunch, and I'm not the most extrovert sort of character. But I'm very optimistic about that. In fact it's all gone far better than I could have hoped."

Hilary Finch

ook review

cholarly compassion

nes I of England
Caroline Bingham

idenfeld & Nicolson, £9.95)

d's wounds! I will pull n my breeches and they also see my arse!" aimed the King, sick and l of the attentions of a d which he was told ed to gaze upon his face. James I was not vain; unlike so many self-made but like most decent le who have inherited position, he was well able stinguish between himself person and the great he occupied. However, particular occasion was moment's personal petu-. for he was far more than his descendant Victoria of the public's for a glimpse of their eign. At York *e great comfort of the he went on foot to h, saying: "I will have ach, for the people are us to see a King, and so shall, for they shall as ee his body as his face".* t James was not only ally modest, but also ahead of his ill-yoked oms in good sense, is apparent from the wise readable reassessment of eign in Caroline Bing-*James I of England*. is her second book on often misunderstood ch, being complementary earlier work on the sub-*The Making of a King: Early Years of James VI I*. But this new book on its own, since it with a summary of his years as King of Scots proceeding to his inter-ally more important as King of England. He f, of course, preferred to himself James the First of Great Britain, seeking the Union of Parliaments over a century before it came—such a numerical style, except among Balkan monarchs, being never normally used by contemporaries except to indicate a *complete change of status* from an earlier numbering: nobody speaks of Victoria I, nor spoke of Elizabeth I until the present reign.

King James was not only a statesman ahead of his subjects in desiring their political union, he was also an accomplished theologian far ahead of his time ecumenically. Himself a devout Calvinist despite his well-known crack, "No bishop, no king", he allowed his Danish queen to become a convert to Catholicism without endangering their children's staunch Anglicanism; and but for the backlash provoked by the foolish firebrands' Gunpowder Plot had clearly intended to relax the penal laws against Roman Catholics.

As the story unfolds, my admiration increases for Miss Bingham's scholarly compassion towards the long-dead people of whom she writes. If the Howards appear too tenacious of power, when she takes even the naughtiest of them apart—the murderess Frances Howard, Countess of Essex and Somerset—she brings us into sympathy with the misguided lady's problems. She is able to discuss James's affection for Carr and Buckingham in a tolerant light impossible to earlier writers: at first experimentally bisexual, his more dominant homosexuality probably involved mutual masturbation, since he condemned sodomy. Above all, however, James kept England out of war: his wise inglorious motto was "Blessed are the Peacemakers".

Iain Moncreiffe

LPO/Pritchard
Festival Hall

Max Harrison

The opening pages of Delius's *Brigg Fair* are a remarkable evocation of the English countryside as it once was; the flute, harp and the strings' timeless continuum suggesting the hushed calm of a late spring afternoon. John Pritchard caught that aspect of the music beautifully in the performance he gave on Sunday with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, and later on there was much lovely playing from the strings and solo horn.

Into this state of contemplation a Lincolnshire folk song is introduced, and it, too, seems outside time. However corporeal action ensues in the resourceful variations which follow, and once again it has to be remarked that because Delius has been so much spoken of as a rhapsodist we remain less aware than we should be of his craftmanship. Perhaps *Brigg Fair* is a matter of variations on a mood rather than on notes, for often we seem to be at once close to, yet far distant from, the thematic melody. That comes across in the diversity of the insistently multi-storeyed orchestral fabric, which Mr Pritchard controlled with vigilant sensitivity.

Another set of variations followed in the shape of Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, in which Joaquin Achucarro was the soloist. Like *Brigg Fair*, it is no rhapsody. To begin with, the keyboard part is thinly written, but Mr Achucarro played it very legato and well-pedalled, so that it achieved maximum contrast with the sharp, spiky orchestration.

That continued through several variations, the piano and orchestra heightening the effect that each was making. Theirs was, indeed, a very musical performance, the difficulties of the soloist's part never being made a point of, although the virtuosity of the orchestration was emphasized.

Without ever going against the score, and aided by the Festival Hall's famous acoustics, Mr Pritchard accentuated woodwind and brass rather than strings, and the whole sometimes took on an icy glitter reminiscent of Paganini rather than Rachmaninov. Even the lushly melodious Variation 18 was not overheated, and note was taken of the humour the composer expressed in several deflationary endings.

We also heard an interesting account of Sibelius's second symphony, at once sombre and exultant. The LPO strings had their turn here, producing a darkly resonant tone which gave this interpretation much of its weight. However, rather than the music's physical properties, the real point was its internal drama, so vividly realized here.

Wind Harmonie/ Bourton
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Hilary Finch

Sunday night's curtain-raiser, Weber's "Marche für Harmonie", is, as its title would make clear in France or Germany, a march for wind band. That Robert Bourton, principal bassoon of the London Symphony Orchestra, chose the strangely but perhaps in England necessarily tautologous name of Wind Harmonie for his newly formed ensemble in no way detracts from his enterprise in giving well-established orchestral colleagues a chance to come out for an airing.

An outing was obviously what they needed. Although the group contains some highly skilled individual musicians, as was revealed in the deftly played 16 variations of Wilfred Joseph's meandering *Concerto a Dodici*, their ensemble playing is as yet too complacent and lacking in a sense of musical galvanization and inter-fertilization to be taken seriously as chamber-music making.

Colours and tones were blended sensitively enough to tickle the ear in Milhaud's Fifth Symphonie, the *Dixtuor* for wind, although it would perhaps have been more valuable at this early stage in the programme to have heard more than one of his fleetingly whimsical miniatures to enable a relatively unprepared audience to catch and savour their idiom.

The real test of the evening came in Mozart's Divertimento in E flat, K226. Performances of these lesser-known, slighter wind serenades can so often slip into the mechanical yet erratic pleasantries of a Viennese musical clock if the witty, artful twists and turns of the repartee are not caught, relished and turned into alert and lively musical conversation. It was here, particularly in the outer two movements, that the group's lack of close-knit musical purpose was most apparent.

After the interval the smell of the theatre in Donizetti's Sinfonia in G minor seemed to warm the players' blood somewhat and get them well blown in for what was musically and interpretatively by far the most satisfying piece of the evening, the 1952 revised version of Stravinsky's *Octet*.

The smaller grouping and the classical discipline of the writing seemed to urge the group to a greater sensitivity and seriousness of purpose; the staccato and legato contrasts of the opening Sinfonia were sharply etched; the bright, multicoloured sparklets of criss-crossing rhythmic and melodic patterns in its variations fired from a controlled and potent source of inner energy.

But the evening as a whole was disappointingly lacking in impetus, its ultimately insubstantial programme enervated by an ambling, cavalier stage presentation which undoubtedly had its effect on the playing.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Bread or Blood
BBC 2

Joan Bakewell

As an opening episode it did not get very far. But then it soon became clear that the intention of this rather serious new drama series is not to cover ground, but to stand it. For *Bread or Blood* is about the state of affairs that prevailed in rural England, more specifically Wiltshire, in the decade after the Napoleonic wars. The episode—barely plotted, sparingly scripted by Peter Ransley—has been taken by him from W. H. Hudson's book, *A Shepherd's Life*, itself an historical record made early in this century from conversations with villagers whose family recollections reach back to those times.

Without knowing anything of the source one can only credit it with authenticity because the simple story of stag poaching, Bible-reading goodness and wind-lashed poverty rings so compellingly true.

At the same time the series is in effect highly stylized. The dialogue is minimal. All action reduced to essentials. Characterization conveyed by a hard look, a stooped shoulder, a bending head. Music a mere drum, sometimes a pipe and harp. No more. If slow, it is also impressive. But, who knows, by the end of five episodes it may also have become gloriously parodyable.

In terms of presentation—by Ruth Caleb, the producer, and Peter Smith, the director—it effectively sabotages today's modish fashion for all things rural

Bread or Blood has none of those bright scrubbed pine tables, cotton aprons or crisp wicker baskets. Its tables and baskets are worn and dark, its mattresses creep with straw, its outdoor pump runs cold to redden the hands. This is a picture of rural poverty at a level we can hardly imagine; the only light from candles, coal is a luxury, venison a rare treat, and the news of the death of Marlborough taking 12 months to cross the county. It *is* in the telling of this sombre record that the series promises to be most rewarding.

Stock Exchange Prices

Heavy selling of oils

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 30. Dealings End, April 9. § Contango Day, April 10. Settlement Day, April 21

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
99¹¹/₁₆	91	Exch	8¼% 1981	99¹¹/₁₆	..	8.306	11.735
99⁵/₁₆	91	Exch	9½% 1981	99³/₁₆	..	9.578	11.997
96¾	85½	Exch	3% 1981	96⅝	..	3.106	12.397
100¹⁵/₁₆	93⁷/₁₆	Exch	12¾% 1981	100⁵/₁₆	-⅛	12.742	12.590
97⅞	88	Treas	8½% 1980-82	97⁷/₁₆	..	8.724	12.010
93¾	81⅝	Treas	3% 1982	94⅜	..	3.179	9.955
102¾	90½	Treas	14% 1982	101¹⁵/₁₆	..	13.734	11.739
95¾	85⅝	Treas	8¼% 1982	95⅝	..	8.627	12.141
96	85⅝	Exch	9¼% 1982	95¾	..	9.661	12.485
94⅞	84⅝	Exch	8¾% 1983	94⅝	-⅛	9.247	12.239
89¼	76½	Exch	3% 1983	88½	..	3.389	9.849
99⁷/₁₆	85⅝	Treas	12% 1983	99¹/₁₆	-⅛	12.114	12.548
94¹/₁₆	84⅛	Treas	9½% 1983	93¹⁵/₁₆	-⅛	9.848	12.383
102⅞	94⅛	Exch	13½% 1983	101½	-⅛	13.300	12.802
94¹/₁₆	81⅛	Exch	10% 1983	93¹⁵/₁₆	-⅛	10.645	12.725
87⅞	76⅞	Fund	5½% 1982-84	86⅞	-⅛	6.332	11.106
97⁷/₁₆	86⅞	Exch	11¼% 1984	96½	-¼	11.659	12.735
104⅜	94½	Exch	14% 1984	102⅞	-⅛	13.608	12.854
80⅞	65¾	Exch	3% 1984	79⅞	-⅛	3.756	10.561
99⅝	88	Treas	12% 1984	98³/₁₆	-⅛	12.222	12.639
108¾	97⅞	Treas	15% 1985	107³/₁₆	-⅛	13.994	12.593
99⅞	96¹⁵/₁₆	Exch Cv	12% 1985	98⅜	-⅛	12.200	12.502
75⅞	68¹⁵/₁₆	Treas	3% 1985	74⅞	-⅛	4.005	10.691
MEDIUMS							
103¾	89½	Exch	12¼% 1985	98⅛	-⅛	12.484	12.791
97⅞	93½	Exch	11¾% 1986	96½	-⅛	12.177	12.728
69¹⁵/₁₆	63¼	Treas	3% 1986	69⅝	..	4.326	10.981
89⅝	78⅞	Treas	8½% 1984-86	87⅜	..	9.955	12.365
105¾	90⅞	Exch	13¼% 1987	103⅜	-⅛	13.192	13.135
81½	70¼	Fund	6½% 1985-87	77⅞	-⅛	8.314	11.605
99⅝	91⅛	Treas	12% 1987	93⅞	-⅛	12.696	13.273
83	71⅞	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	80	..	9.872	12.530
63¾	54⅞	Trans	3% 1978-88	63⅞	-⅛	4.757	10.377
94	82¾	Treas	11½% 1989	91¾	-⅛	12.724	13.517
68¾	57⅞	Treas	5% 1986-89	65⅜	-⅛	7.632	11.441
104¾	87⅝	Treas	13% 1990	100⅝	-⅛	13.299	13.441
82	69½	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	80⅛	-⅛	10.586	12.346

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

1980/81 High	Low	Company
195	117	AAH
200	96	AB Electronics
244	111½	AGB Research
29	12	Al Ind Prod
263	161	APV Hldgs
71	46	Aaronson Bros
59	42½	Acrow
50	25	Do A
200	142	Adwest Group
428	108½	Aeron't & Gen
37	15	Acro Needles
600	395	AKZO
113	45	Alcan Alum UK
83½	73½	Do 10½%
54	30	Allen W. G.
140	85	Allied Colloids
36½	24¾	Allied Plant
323	222	Amal Metal
96	49	Amal Power
39½	23	Amber Day
38	24	Amber Ind Hldgs
143	82	Amstrad
89	56	Anchor Chem
108½	53¼	Anderson Strath
94	60	Anglia TV 'A'
11	7²³/₃₂	Anglo Amer Ind
37½	22½	Aquascutum 'A'
60	34	Arenson Hldgs
131	35½	Argyll Foods
73	30	Arlen Elec
114	80	Arlington Mtr
93	45	Ass Biscuit
221	176	Ass Book

C — E

F — H

I — L

M — N

O — S

T — Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

هكذا من الأصل

›recasters odds on ›rling, ›ge 18

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Struggle over German TV monopoly, page 19

Stock markets
FT Index 533.5, down 6.1
FT Gilts 69.97, down 0.09

Sterling
$2.1690, down 365 pts
Index 98.7, down 0.8

Dollar
Index 101.5, up 0.4
DM 2.1545, up 325 pts

Gold
$531.50, up $8

Money
3-mth sterling 12⅛-12¼
3-mth Euro $ 15¼-15⅛
6-mth Euro $ 15⅛-15¼

IN BRIEF

›olls-Royce ›ins £8m ›razil jets ›der

›ansBrazil Airlines has ›rmed its intention to ›r Rolls-Royce RB211-535-E4 ›es to power three Boeing ›passenger jetliners on ›stic routes, a Rolls-Royce ›esman said.

›e order is worth almost ›for the installed engines, ›double this amounts includ- ›the spares likely to be ›ht. Delivery is expected in ›t 1985.

›att and Witney of the ›ed States is to supply ›nes for three other Trans- ›il Boeing 757s because the ›r was split between the ›engine suppliers.

›countants seek ›urance switch

›dical changes in national ›ance arrangements for the ›mployed were called for ›rday by the six groups ›esenting accountants. They ›d that contributions should ›arnings-related and that an ›mt equivalent to the em- ›r's contribution should be ›deducible.

›4m for Vanbrugh

›nbrugh Life, the unit- ›ed assurance subsidiary of ›Prudential Corporation, last ›took in £3.4m in personal ›ion plans, as the self- ›loyed set out to beat the ›before the turn of the tax

›al exports double

›al exports, which have ›led in the past year to 4.7 ›on tonnes, could rise to ›than eight million tonnes ›year, and may reach 15 ›on tonnes by 1985. Europe ›ding Scandinavia is ›cted to need 170 million ›s of imported coal by 1990 ›further 100 million tonnes ›e end of the century, the ›nal Coal Board says.

›kruptcies record

›sinesses were going into ›dation at a record rate of ›week in the first 13 weeks ›e year. This represents a ›er cent increase over the ›period last year. Worst hit ›the building, textiles, car ›engineering industries, ›ding to Dun and Brad- ›, the credit rating agency.

›rgy saving

›ot energy conservation ›cts supported by the ›nment could lead to ›l savings of almost 2 ›n tonnes of oil equivalent, ›about £180m.

›ineers' task force

›task force has been set up ›e civil engineering econo- ›development committee to ›ify specific opportunities ›vestment in infrastructure, ›as communications and ›and sewerage schemes.

›rn redundancies

›orn Lighting, part of the ›n EMI group, has made ›120 people redundant at ›Enfield and Leicester ›atories and manifold ›inery department.

›ll Street setback

›eDow Jones industrial ›ge closed 12.87 points ›to 994.24. The $-SDR was ›27. The £ was 0.558982.

Sterling plunges 3½ cents to lowest close for 12 months

By Frances Williams

The pound took a battering from all sides on world foreign exchange markets yesterday, sinking in London to its lowest closing level against the dollar for a year.

Speculation on an early cut in minimum lending rate reports that the International Monetary Fund is to resume sterling lending and a strengthening dollar all contributed to the pound's tumble.

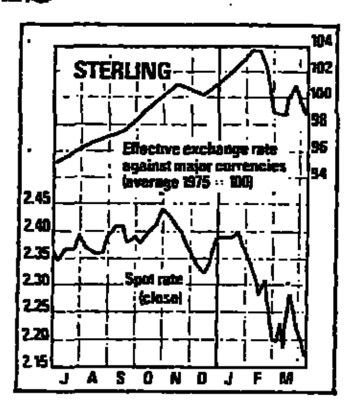
Increasing fears over Soviet intentions towards Poland and higher dollar interest rates sent the dollar soaring against all leading currencies.

The pound finished London trading at its lowest level of the day, down more than 3½ cents from Friday at $2.1690. It has not traded below $2.17 since early March and last closed at this level at the beginning of April 1980, its low point of the year.

Sterling also lost ground to continental currencies, including the Deutsche mark. Its trade-weighted index, as calculated by the Bank of England, was down 0.8 from Friday at 98.7 (average 1975 = 100).

The pound weakened against the dollar overnight on Sunday along with other currencies in the European Monetary System. But despite Bank of England support it fell back sharply during the day ahead of today's banking figures, on speculation that these will show relatively low monetary growth in March and will thus pave the way for an early cut in minimum lending rate.

Reports at the weekend that the IMF is planning to resume lending in sterling also depressed the pound. It is feared that additional amounts of the currency sold on the foreign exchange markets could depress its value.



The dollar forged ahead steadily throughout the day. Renewed worries about political tensions in Poland encouraged investors to sell European currencies such as the Deutsche mark and to put their money into dollars, with considerable interest rate advantages.

The United States currency gained 3¼ pfennings on the Deutsche mark, its highest closing level for a month.

United States interest rates rose further on Monday. The key federal funds rate, at which the banks lend each other reserves, traded at 16 per cent from 15½ per cent on Friday, and Euro-dollar deposit rates also rose sharply. The rate of interest on three-month deposits was up ½ percentage point from Friday at 15¼ to 15¼ per cent.

These rises follow publication of the United States wholesale prices and unemployment figures for March which suggest that the American economy and hence credit demand remains buoyant. There were also indications from the Federal Reserve Board that it does not want interest rates to decline too sharply.

French motor rivals join forces in trucks deal

By Clifford Webb

Peugeot and Renault, the rival French motor groups, have agreed to collaborate in the manufacture and marketing of commercial vehicles throughout Europe.

The deal, which involves Talbot's Dodge truck and bus subsidiary at Dunstable, will be announced formally within the next two weeks. According to management and union sources on the Continent last night it will be the first in a series of deals leading to a full merger of Peugeot and Renault commercial vehicle interests.

It is understood that the French Government is making substantial finance available to persuade the traditional rivals to sink their differences and establish a single, strong French trucks group.

Peugeot had a nominal interest in commercial vehicles until it bought Chrysler Europe two and a half years ago and acquired Chrysler's truck and van factories in Spain and Britain.

In Spain the former Barreiros Company was the leading manufacturer of trucks over 12 tonnes while Dodge United Kingdom—a much smaller company with only 2,000 employees—held about 8 per cent of the British market.

Peugeot initially wanted to talk about plans to become a leading force in commercial vehicles. These had to be hurriedly shelved last year, however, when the group ran into serious financial problems for the first time.

A Brussels-based executive of an international motor group said last night: "The real prize for Renault is the Spanish operation. Spain is still a virtually closed market to motor imports. In the United Kingdom Renault will get the Dodge distribution network to strengthen its rather weak set-up for Renault trucks and vans."

A spokesman for Talbot United Kingdom said last night: "I cannot confirm or deny this rumour. I have no comment to make."

But Mr George Turnbull, chairman of Talbot United Kingdom, had said recently that Peugeot was looking for partnership deals on commercial vehicles. It is known that talks with Daf, Holland, which is part-owned by International Harvester of America, reached an advanced stage last autumn but collapsed suddenly.

In another move, Talbot said yesterday that it would close its assembly plant in Dublin and cease all trading in the Republic unless the Irish trade unions withdrew an embargo on Talbot imports by April 13. Redundancy notices have been issued to the 132 employees there.

The embargo was imposed last week in retaliation for Talbot's action in making 90 workers redundant in Dublin. This came after the phasing out of Avenger assembly for export to Britain. The model will disappear altogether when the Linwood plant closes next month.

Talbot tried to get the embargo lifted by offering to place a £17m tyre contract with Dunlop Cork which would have provided work or 90 men. It was approved by the Irish Government but was rejected by the Irish Congress of Trade Unions.

Talbot said last night that it had no option but to withdraw completely because the embargo and picketing had prevented it from trading after 36 years in Ireland.

Shipbuilders and BP condemn Budget tax

From Our Correspondent
Glasgow

The Government's taxation measures on oil revenues, announced in the last Budget, came in for strong criticism yesterday from senior executives of British Petroleum and British Shipbuilders at the Scott Lithgow yard, in Port Glasgow, when the first Emergency Support Vessel to be launched in the United Kingdom went into the water on time but without ceremony.

At £60m, the contract represents the most valuable order received by British Shipbuilders for a single commercial vessel, intended for day to day support of offshore oilfield operations.

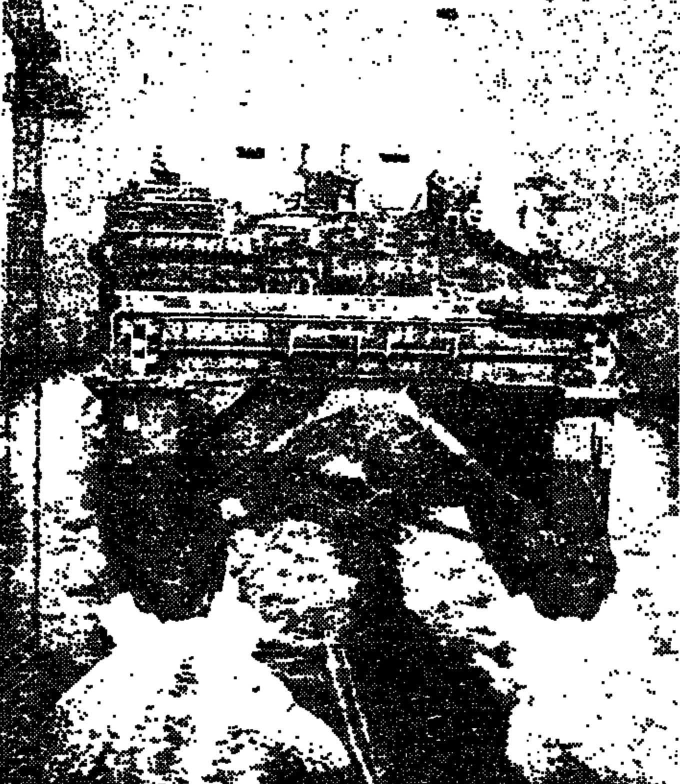
She will be provided with the most advanced facilities available to deal with all kinds of platform inspection, maintenance, and service requirements, with capabilities for any emergency.

Iolair, as it will be named, will serve installations in the Forties and Thistle fields, but it will also be available for similar support in other areas off the north-west European continental shelf.

Mr Cameron Parker, chairman of British Shipbuilders offshore division (Scott Lithgow), siad that the vessel would be owned and operated 75 per cent by BP, and 25 per cent by BP, and 25 per cent by the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC), on her delivery in September, British Petroleum had also given Scott Lithgow an order for a 109,000-tonne segregated ballast tanker valued at £35m and a heavy-duty, semi-submersible drilling rig valued at £55m.

Mr Parker said that they now viewed with "grave disquietude" the recent changes in taxation policy by the Treasury resulting in the postponement by Occidental of the development of their Claymore B field with a floating production rig. This was a serious blow to the offshore division

They had read with mounting concern statements from Shell, BNOC, and most recently from Sir David Steel, chairman of BP, that the taxation changes might lead to a slowing down of investment plans, and that depending on discussions with the Government over future taxation policies a decision by BP to shelve an offshore project could come in the next few months.



The emergency support vessel Iolair is launched at Scott Lithgow's yard in Port Glasgow.

UK owners place orders with foreign shipyards

By Our Industrial Editor

British shipyards, faced with the prospect of industrial action over planned compulsory redundancies, have less than 18 months' work, while owners have turned to foreign yards for their new ships.

Orders placed by United Kingdom shipping companies with foreign shipbuilding nations—especially South Korea and Japan—have risen to their highest level for years, totalling 1.2 million tons gross and equivalent to more than double the inflow of orders into home shipyards last year.

The latest annual report of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, published yesterday, revealed that United Kingdom owners have more than 500,000 tons of ships on order in South Korea and 289,000 tons from Japanese yards.

Other foreign shipbuilders benefiting from the industry's orders include Brazil, Poland and Italy, and 80 per cent of the ships now on order for United Kingdom registration are bulk carriers.

Lloyd's said that last year the decline of the British shipbuilding industry had been further accentuated and it now ranked eleventh in the league table of orders.

With the inflow of orders last year amounting to 500,000 tons gross, output for the year was the lowest since 1933 and the lowest since records were kept.

"Irrespective of the factors which have contributed to a situation where United Kingdom shipyards have less than eighteen months' work, there can be no consolation whatsoever in the fact that more than 1.2 million tons gross is on order elsewhere in the world for the United Kingdom flag, the highest figure for many years", Lloyd's commented

Although the United Kingdom industry fared less well than its main competitors, Lloyd's said that last year provided every indication than an overall improvement in the fortunes of the industry was under way with the volume of orders placed last year worldwide reaching their highest level since 1974.

Ultimatum for British yards over job losses

British Shipbuilders yesterday was given just over a fortnight to withdraw 628 compulsory redundancy notices or face possible industrial action.

Six hundred delegates from all over the United Kingdom decided to hold yard by yard meetings on the redundancies the corporation announced last week.

The meeting, in Newcastle upon Tyne, also agreed to report its decisions on further action to the shipbuilding negotiating committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering unions by April 22.

Mr James Murray, chairman of the negotiating committee, said after the meeting that conflict was inevitable if British Shipbuilders did not withdraw the notices it started to issue last week.

He said the delegates had empowered the committee "to support whatever action the men in the yards think necessary to challenge compulsory redundancies.

"In the event of action being taken it is likely to be countrywide", he said.

Mr Murray said the meeting had been unanimous in its support for action. He would not be drawn on the type of action, but said there were forms of retaliation other than strikes.

Since nationalization in 1977 about 20,000 workers have voluntarily left the industry which now employs 70,000.

Mr Murray said the 7.5 per cent pay deal recommended by the confederation was the best available and should be accepted. But this would also be debated in the yards, he said.

IMF chief calls for tough stand against trade protectionism

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, April 6

Mr Jacques De Larosiere, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, called yesterday for tough anti-protectionist and money policies in industrial nations.

He gave a warning at a banking conference that protectionism and currency rate manipulation were the causes of the economic problems of the 1930s and he said: "One major challenge for the fund today is to assist in averting a repetition of that disastrous period."

Mr De Larosiere said that the fund's policy analysis over the last two years had concluded that "the industrial economies must give primacy to the control of inflation by constraining money demand within the limits of domestic output and the availability of sustainable external finance".

He said that the balance of payments problems of all oil importing nations were increasing and that the average deficit of these countries in 1980-81 would be over 7 per cent of their gross national product, compared to a rate of 3 per cent in the early 1970s.

Providing sufficient loans to these countries was a prime concern for the fund. The managing director said that difficulties in the negotiations on securing IMF quota increases meant that it would be "several years" before the fund's resources were increased by this means. But he was optimistic about borrowing from IMF member countries after Saudi Arabia's decision to lend the fund 4,000m of Special Drawing Rights this year and next.

Mr De Larosiere is seeking additional funds from other oil exporting countries and also expects to borrow at least 1,000m SDRs of shorter term financing from the central banks for the industrialized countries.

The fund needs to augment its resources by between 6,000m and 7,000m SDRs and it has not ruled out the possibility of borrowing directly from the markets. This would help the fund to diversify its sources of finance as well as boost the role of the SDR in the markets,

The total loans committed by the fund to its members is 10,000m SDRs. This is more than double the average for the past six years and the final 1981 figure is likely to exceed 12,000m SDRs.

Already 31 countries have obtained large loans with tough conditions attached and the fund expects this number to rise considerably by the end of this year.

Mr De Larosiere stressed that the fund was not in the development aid business and the conditions set on its lending were to strengthen the framework for sustained long-term growth in its member countries.

Mr Jacques De Larosiere: IMF must help to avert a repetition of the 1930s.

Petroleum exchange off to a brisk start

By Our Commodities Correspondent

London's newest commodity market, the International Petroleum Exchange, got off to a brisk start on its first day yesterday by trading 1,779 100-tonne lots of heating oil futures.

Mr Robin Woodhead, chairman of the market, said: "It is very encouraging for a first day." He said that a promising feature of the market was the number of oil trade users.

The June contract closed at $304.50 after opening as predicted at $300 and reaching $305 at one point during the day. After allowing for the number of crossed contracts, the final trade totalled about 1,200 contracts.

Dealers felt that the willingness of the oil trade to test the new contracts was especially encouraging because the Rotterdam spot market was quiet for most of the day.

One trader said: "People are much more convinced about the market now that they realize its hedging possibilities." The founders of the IPE have always argued that the market's success largely rests on oil traders and majors using is at a prices hedge.

The IPE trades futures contracts for heating oil, also known as gas oil, in lots of 100 tonnes. The contract is close York Merchantile Exchange. New York prices were active yesterday, possibly encouraged by activity in London.

Contracts can be traded up to nine months ahead of the first delivery month, which is June. Oil for delivery in January, 1982, was fetching $335 yesterday.

Mr Woodhead expects that after the initial interest trading will taper off during the week. If a daily turnover of about 200 lots can be attained fairly soon he believes the market will have established itself.

Esso 'delay' hits shale oil shares

By Michael Prest

Esso has sounded a note of caution over prospects for the infant oil-from-shale industry by seeking renegotiation of the agreement for developing the big Rundle oil shale deposits in Queensland, Australia.

The oil major told its two Australian partners in the scheme, Central Pacific Minerals and Southern Pacific Petroleum, that it wants to reconsider whether the next stage at Rundle should be a A$2,100m (£1,100m) pilot plant.

Yesterday's announcement from Esso brought the shares sharply down. CPM, which had been A$11 in October, slumped to close in London at A$2.85. SPP after fetching A$4 in October, ended the day at A$1.15. CPM and SPP each has 25 per cent of the deposit, while Esso has 50 per cent.

Esso has told its partners that it will soon propose a plan whereby the pilot stage could be dropped and the project will proceed directly to a commercial plant after laboratory and other investigations.

The Esso move is widely regarded in Australian financial circles as a delaying tactic. It is pointed out that the Rundle deposits—at north and south Rundle—have become more and more expensive to exploit while real oil prices have barely risen.

At present costs, a 50,000 barrel a day plant—the minimum at which the deposit would be economical—could require an investment of A$10,000m. The 280,000 barrel a day plant which was envisaged in the heads of agreement last year might cost A$15,000m.

Sources also suggest that Esso may be trying to put political pressure on the Australian Government to raise the price of its oil from the Bass Strait. Esso is the biggest producer from this offshore field, but only receives the equivalent of about US$14 a barrel.

Rundle contains estimated reserves of about 2,000 million barrels of oil. The share prices of CPM and SPP have risen strongly in recent years on expectations that the deposit would be commercially developed. British investors are heavy buyers of the shares.

Under the 1980 agreement Esso would have provided most of the enormous finance. The plan envisaged a first stage during which 25,000 tonnes of ore would be extracted daily to feed the pilot plant.

Hawley Leisure in £18m merger

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Michael Ashcroft, a 36-year-old entrepreneur, is to merge his public company interests, Hawley Leisure and Provincial, formerly Provincial Laundries.

Hawley, a sports goods retailer and amusement machines company, is to make an £18.2m takeover offer in ordinary shares for Provincial.

On a pro-forma basis the merged group, of which Mr Ashcroft will be the executive chairman, would have a market value of about £40m.

The rationale of the deal, according to Mr Ashcroft, is that the new company would be "engaged in the provision of services ranging from retailing and leisure to building maintenance".

After a capital reorganization of Hawley, three new Hawley shares will be offered for every five in Provincial.

This represents a one-for-one share exchange prior to the capital reorganization, and values each Provincial share, on the basis of last night's Hawley price, at 56p.

Mr Ashcroft came into the public limelight just over three years ago when he acquired strategic stakes in Hawley and Provincial. A series of takeover bids by both companies followed, and last year Provincial acquired a stake of just over 20 per cent in Pritchard Services, a large industrial cleaning and contracting group.

The possibility of a bid by the new Hawley group, should the deal announced yesterday go through, is not ruled out. Pritchard shares gained 3p to 166p in a dull stock market.

Financial Editor, page 19

PRICE CHANGES

›es

›n Hill	30p to 800p	Nthgate Explor	25p to 375p
	16p to 265p	Ryl Bk of Scot	12p to 144p
›nersley	10p to 250p	Rustenburg	10p to 242p
›vale Con	17p to 195p	Western Areas	10p to 319p
Holds	11p to 265p	Yaroow	10p to 248p

›ls

›a Rue	10p to 705p	Lasmo	23p to 539p
›ll Elect	10p to 409p	Shell Trans	16p to 356p
›nti	10p to 585p	Spirax-Sarco	19p to 163p
	10p to 673p	Standard Tel	10p to 530p
›on Travel	10p to 247p	Sun Alliance	10p to 836p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
›alia $	1.98	1.90
›ia Sch	35.00	32.80
›um Fr	83.50	79.50
›la $	2.64	2.55
›ark Kr	15.40	14.60
›nd Mkk	9.42	8.97
›e Fr	11.40	10.90
›any DM	4.87	4.63
›e Dr	116.00	110.00
›kong $	12.10	11.50
›nd Pd	1.33	1.27
Lir	2385.00	2285.00
›n Yn	493.00	468.00
›rlands Gld	5.39	5.13
Norway Kr	12.39	11.74
Portugal Esc	128.00	122.00
South Africa Rd	2.07	1.93
Spain Pta	194.00	185.00
Sweden Kr	10.65	10.10
Switzerland Fr	4.44	4.21
USA $	2.24	2.17
Yugoslavia Dnr	83.50	78.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Piety and profit hand in hand, as Hodder buys New English Library

Harold Robbins joins Enid Blyton 'stable'

Remaindering, the reselling of books that can no longer be sold at full prices, is an island of prosperity in a sea of publishing recession. The list of the lame brought low by slump, a strong pound, public spending cuts and high interest rates is long, and it is led by such distinguished names as Penguin and BPC. For a time, the biggest publisher of the lot, William Collins, was among that number.

But one name is absent, Hodder and Stoughton, far from shrinking before the recession, is deliberately expanding into it. Yesterday it added the New English Library to a paperback list that already Coronet, Knight (for children) and the Teach Yourself series.

The seller (for £2.4m) was the big American Times Mirror Company of Los Angeles, whose main interests are in broadcasting and newspapers. New English Library, a United Kingdom subsidiary must have seemed a sickly infant that would not grow up. Times Mirror will not miss such a tiny member of its family.

How has Hodder, a public unquoted company, succeeded where others are struggling to survive? Because it married piety to profit. Matthew Hodder and Cecil Wilberforce Stoughton, founders in 1868, did well by doing good

They set up in the City's Paternoster Row, published a series of theological works: books like *Ascent of Man, Natural Law in the Spiritual World*, and the *Expositor's Bible* (in 49 volumes). Non-religious books were also sold, but only of the "improving" kind, such as President Garfield's *From Log Cabin to White House*.

These Victorians had no trouble uniting God and Mammon. Matthew's grandson, Sir John Ernest Hodder-Williams produced a lavish edition of Omar Khayyam. Grandfather complained of "heathen rubbish". But Sir Ernest replied: "It has shown a profit of £800 in the past 12 months." Matthew Hodder (after a long silence): "You will be careful, Ernest my boy, won't you?"

He was, and his successors were too. After Sapper and A. E. W. Mason in the twenties, their authors included Leslie Charteris, creator of the Saint in the thirties and in the forties, Captain W. E. Johns, creator of Biggles, and Enid Blyton. They also published many books on cricket. Today they have John Le Carré, James Clavell and former MP turned best seller, Jeffrey Archer.

The New English Library brings them (among others) Harold Robbins and Irwin Shaw as well as Robert Heinlein in science fiction. The alliance of piety and pulchritude, of brotherly love and lust is stronger than ever.

In the language of money that Hodder knows so well, New English Library brings the group sales of around £6m. In its best years it is understood to have made modest profits, but can hardly be making them now. The price is £2.4m after elimination of New English Library borrowings.

Hodder, despite its stress on paperbacks which have done better than hardbacks in the slump, saw profits halved to around £710,000 in the year to March 1980 and are unlikely to be good now. Clearly its existing turnover of £19m can support more profit when the going gets better Meanwhile its stays rough.

Peter Wainwright



Food output challenge in Latin America

Latin America will have to double its energy output over the next 10 years and produce nearly half as much again of food as it does now, if it is to meet the challenge of its increasing population, the president of the Inter-American Development Bank, Mr Antonio Ortiz Mena, said in Madrid yesterday.

Speaking at the start of the 22nd annual meeting of the bank's board of governors, Mr Ortiz Mena said that Latin America would need financial help from industrialized countries outside the region.

"The magnitude of the financial needs of the region and of the tasks facing Latin America, particularly in the energy sector, are well beyond the capability of existing mechanisms for generating and transferring financial and technical resources", he said.

The annual meeting was the first held outside the western hemisphere since the bank was founded in 1959.

Mr Ortiz Mena said that in each year of this decade nearly 3.7 million new workers would enter the Latin American labour market. Unemployment rates would range from 35 to 50 per cent in many countries. "The fundamental challenge in the social field today is to create new job opportunities," he said.

Iran trucks plant

Japan's Nissan Motor Co and Toyo Kogyo Co plan to start assembling small trucks in Iran again after the lifting in January of economic sanctions against Iran.

Oil search rethink

Because of the increasing cost of searching for oil, Australia may reexamine its policy on foreign participation, Mr Al Grivetti, vice president of Conoco Incorporated Petroleum Exploration, said. At present, the government requires companies in this sector to be at least 50 per cent Australian-controlled.

Krupp plant for Egypt

A United States subsidiary of Fried Krupp, the West German steel and heavy industrial group, is to construct a cement plant in Egypt worth more than 200m Deutschemarks (£42.7m).

The Polysius Corporation of America, a subsidiary of Krupp Polysius, a heavy installations company belonging to the Krupp group, received the order from the Suez Cement Company.

China assures Japan

China has assured a visiting Japanese mission, representing five large companies, that it will take delivery of plant ordered from Japan, rescinding its earlier decision to cancel orders under its suspension of modernisation projects.

Mr Masao Sakurai, leader of the mission said that China would now live up to its contracts with Japanese firms and take delivery of plant already ordered.

W German steel output

West German crude steel production in March rose 12.1 per cent to 3.83 million tons from February, according to preliminary figures released by the Federal Statistics Office. Crude steel production in the first quarter of 1981 stood at 10.43 million tons, off 10.1 per cent from the first quarter figure of the year earlier.

Far East oil find

China and Japan have struck oil in the southern part of Bohai Bay, the Japan-China Oil Development Corporation said. The company said it discovered promising oil reserves in the first test drilling in an area about 190km off Tientsin.

Canadian car imports

The Canadian wing of the United Auto Workers union wants Canada to halve Japanese car imports by applying a quota and shelving planned cuts in car import tariffs.

French prices rise

France's retail prices rose 1 per cent in March to give a year on year gain of 15.8 per cent, according to figures from the Confederation Generale du Travail.

'Optimistic' consumers

American consumers are more optimistic about future business and employment prospects, a survey showed yesterday. But it found that consumers remain generally unimpressed with business conditions.

Chile sells up

Chile will return eight state-owned companies to private ownership this year, either fully or partly, in line with its policy of scrapping government monopolies and restrictions to private enterprise.

Joint Gulf industry

Saudi Arabia and Qatar have started joint projects to develop their petrochemical and iron and steel industries.

Miscalculation of sterling value could jeopardize inflation strategy

Forecasters at odds on the pound

The extreme volatility of world foreign exchange markets in recent weeks—with yesterday's reaction to mounting tension over Poland the latest example—clearly illustrates the difficulties of trying to predict what is going to happen to exchange rates in the future.

In the past couple of months the most extraordinary forecasts for the value of the pound over the next two years or so have been published, some of which are shown in the table. Yet, what happens to sterling is of critical importance to the future of British industry and to the Government's economic strategy.

After the battering many businesses have received from the 25 per cent rise in sterling over the past two years, industry will be hoping for a lower exchange rate to improve competitiveness and profitability.

The Government, while publicly acknowledging that sterling is uncomfortably high for industry, will be anxious to avoid a precipitous decline in the exchange rate which would put up prices and place its counter-inflation strategy at risk.

Neither side will derive much comfort from the knowledge that two of the most highly respected forecasting organizations in the country are predicting substantial and diametrically opposed movements in sterling over the next two years.

The National Institute of Economic and Social Research, sees the effective exchange rate rising by over 14 per cent between 1980 and 1982, with beneficial effects on the inflation rate. But the Centre for Economic Forecasting at the London Business School predicts a fall of more than 9 per cent over the same period.

The Treasury, in its forecast accompanying the Budget, assumes the exchange rate to remain unchanged (from an unspecified level) over the next 18 months.

FORECASTS FOR EFFECTIVE STERLING EXCHANGE RATE

	Percentage change on 1980 1981	on 1981 1982	on 1980 1982
National Institute of Economic & Social Research	+8.9	+ 4.8	+14.3
Laing & Cruickshank	+8.3	− 0.4	+ 7.9
Economist Intelligence Unit	+3.3	0	+ 3.3
Treasury	Assumed unchanged		
Liverpool Research Group	−2.3	+ 1.4	− 0.9
Henley Centre for Forecasting	+3.7	− 4.5	− 1.0
Confederation of British Industry	+2.4	− 4.1	− 1.8
Maxwell Stamp	+1.5	− 6.7	− 5.3
Forex	0	− 7.1	− 7.1
Phillips & Drew	0	− 7.2	− 7.2
London Business School	+2.5	−11.7	− 9.3

Getting the future value of sterling wrong can make a substantial difference to forecasts for output, trade, company profits and inflation.

Cambridge Econometrics, the commercial arm of the University of Cambridge Growth Project (not to be confused with Mr Wynne Godley's Cambridge Economic Policy Group), recently estimated that over three years a 10 per cent drop in the value of the pound would boost output by 3 per cent (mainly through its effects in boosting exports), save 400,000 jobs and swell company profits by £2,000m. A devaluation of this order might also add 3 to 4 percentage points to the Retail Price Index.

Relative inflation rates and competitiveness, international interest rate differentials and countries' balance of payments positions have all been advanced at varying times as the principal explanations of currency movements. On all these counts the pound might be expected to fall in the coming year or so.

But Britain's self-sufficiency in oil means that the pound is likely to benefit from increases in oil prices. Mr John Kay, of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, said recently that oil had already pushed up the pound's value by some 30 per cent.

Some economists—termed international monetarists—who include the London Business School's Centre for Economic Forecasting and Professor Alan Walters, Mrs Thatcher's economic adviser, believe that the exchange rate reacts to the tightness or laxness of monetary policy and this too is taken into account in a number of forecasts.

The recent track record of exchange rate forecasters has nevertheless been pretty dismal. They are just not very good at predicting market behaviour which depends crucially on expectations and sentiment, and on political as well as economic events. None of the leading forecasters, the Treasury, included, foresaw the huge rise in the pound over the past two years.

It is little wonder that ministers and officials in the Treasury and Bank of England are looking with increasing interest at the relative stability seemingly offered by membership of the European Monetary System.

Fixing the exchange rate, whatever its other consequences, would at least remove a worrying source of uncertainty for those who have to take decisions about our economic future.

Frances Williams

Chemical industry seeks change in policies to avert 'disaster'

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Britain's chemical industry leaders yesterday urged the Government to change its policies and save the industry from a "disastrous" short-term future.

Chemical companies, which have shed more than 20,000 jobs over the past 12 months and said that thousands more were threatened this year, stressed that unless radical short-term changes were made, theindustry would be unable to grasp future opportunities.

The warning comes in a detailed survey from the Chemical Industry Economic Development Committee (Little Neddy) issued by its chairman, Lord Allen of Fallowfield.

The industry, which claims to be the country's most successful with growth prospects, and to be the largest single contributor to the balance of payments, was unable to cope alone, according to this survey.

Factors cited by the tripartite committee for the industry's present malaise included "grave problems" of uncompetitive costs stemming from the high value of sterling, the slump in the home market, expensive energy and reduced cash flow.

In what amounted to one of the toughest demands for the Government to modify its economic policies, the survey said that ministers should recognize the strength of the United Kingdom chemical industry and its long-term potential.

Action was necessary to reduce the energy cost disadvantages of United Kingdom chemical companies and improve their international competitiveness by ensuring that gas prices to the industry were no higher than those applying generally in the EEC. Tariffs for large electricity consumers operating at high load factor should be reviewed, and the £8-per-tonne tax on heavy fuel oil should be removed, the committee said.

It urged the Government to maintain its pressure on the United States Administration for early deregulation of natural gas prices, and stated that natural gas used as a feed stock by United Kingdom chemical companies should be internationally priced.

Chemicals, Contraction or Growth, NEDO Books.

Engineering 'starved of orders'

By Edward Townsend

The plight of Britain's engineering industries has been confirmed in the latest government statistics which show that factories are being starved of orders and hit by steadily declining home sales and exports.

At the end of 1980, total sales by the engineering industries were down by 3 per cent on 1979 while the volume of orders-on-hand dropped by 12 per cent.

A recent report, published by the Engineering Employers' Federation, forecast that, for the mechanical engineering sector, export orders would continue to decline in 1981 after last year's drop of 18 per cent and that a modest upturn in business would not occur until 1982.

Little hope for improvement in retail sales

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Two new analyses of likely retail trade performance this year—one from the Retail Consortium—continue to take a gloomy view of overall prospects for this year, but a modest profits growth in food retailing is thought possible.

Widening of gross margins in food retailing, mainly arising from the development by so many multiples of their fresh food ranges, is forecast by Phillips & Drew, the London brokers, in their latest retail commentary.

The Phillips & Drew argument has become a familiar one within the trade but it is not necessarily decisive. Given the commitment of the multiples to expensive store building programmes, mostly of superstores, the sector can hardly afford a new price war, Phillips & Drew say.

In 1982, after a "modest" widening of gross margins this year, the stores sector could be expected to widen such margins further. This would seem necessary given the substantial erosion of net margins in the past three years, the brokers say.

Widened gross margins this year arising from the bigger switch to fresh foods have also been looked for in the trade. Gross margins on fresh food are often more than double those in packaged groceries and alcoholic drinks, which produce 10 per cent or less gross margins, according to one of the big multiples.

The Retail Consortium, in its latest report, states: "Retailers will not fare well in 1981. The competition for limited consumer spending will be intense at a time when costs are continuing to rise. Profitability will suffer."

The question being asked in the trade is how long such margins can last now that so many multiples are increasing their commitment to fresh foods.

Delicatessen and fresh fruit and vegetables can produce gross margins of up to 25 per cent compared with 18 per cent and 12 per cent from frozen foods and dairy products respectively. But fresh fish can produce gross margins of about 30 per cent.

Mainstop, the superstores division recently launched by BAT Industries, has already announced that as well as making price cuts on a range of packaged groceries the price of meat is to be cut by 10 per cent

Tesco, among those multiples which has moved increasingly into fresh food, has already indicated that in its view the period of deep discounting as a key tool in trading is nearing its end. The company will shortly announce a new sales campaign to succeed that of Operation Checkout, the price-cutting policy that boosted their market share after Tesco dropped trading stamps.

Store profits, probably down nearly 10 per cent last year, are unlikely to be better than maintained this year in the overall retail sector, forecast Phillips & Drew. But there could be strong profits growth next year.

Quick-setting cement aid to mining safety

A novel form of cement anchor for roof bolts used in coal mining is to be manufactured in Britain by Commercial Plastics Special Products of Blyth, Northumberland, a Unilever company.

Dr Peter Stefanini, managing director, claims that "its arrival will revolutionize the whole area of strata control and reinforcement".

Roof bolting is the bonding together of the strata to achieve greater stability of the pit roof. In some countries it is used as the principal means of roof support; in Britain it is used as a secondary means of support.

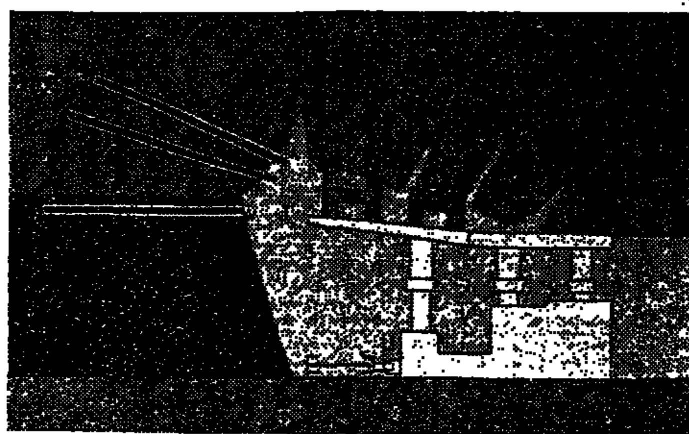


Diagram of a coal face, with hydraulic pit props in place and roof bolts drilled into unsupported rock.

Technology News

Earlier methods have included mechanical roof bolts with expansion shells, which led to very high local stresses: and polyester resin cartridges, which give full-column anchorage but are flammable and expensive.

The new product, known as Cemicron 2000, is based on a patented process developed at the South West Research Institute of San Antonio, Texas. It is a cartridge which contains a high-strength, quick-setting cement.

Dr Stefanini explained: "The unique feature is that the water required to activate the cement is already contained in the cartridge in a micro-encapsulated form.

"The action of the roof bolt or dowel causes rupture of the microcapsules which liberates water, forming a smooth paste. This allows the bolt to pass to the back of the hole. The grout then sets hard to provide firm anchorage."

A solid roof can be achieved in under half a minute, if required.

Energy projects

More than 400 research, development and demonstration projects in the field of renewable energy in Britain are described in a report compiled by the Energy Technology Support Unit at Harwell and published yesterday by the Department of Energy.

It is the third part of a series on energy research and development whose earlier sections covered energy conservation, and energy topics in the social sciences.

Solar energy takes up 111 pages in the report, while hydropower fills only four. Other subjects covered, in order of number of projects, are ave energy, tidal energy, ind energy, biofuels, geothermal energy and the Third World sector, and hydrogen. The Third World category includes biofuels, hydro-electric, solar, ind and other systems.

Substantial work has already been completed on reesarch on the proposed Severn tidal barrage, the register discloses. Aspects covered include general consultancy, energy output studies, the turbogenerator studies, caisson studies, embankments, navigation, data collection, sediment studies, ecology, numerical modelling, physical models and economic studies.

The importance attached to wave energy is also indicated by the large number of projects and the relatively large amounts of money involved. In solar energy, a variety of approaches to photovoltaic solar-cell research are reported.

Individual investigators, the sponsors of their research, and the costs are listed in the register. Most of the projects are sponsored by the Department of Energy; other official sponsors include the Overseas Development Administration, Department of Industry, Science Research Council, and the European Community.

Energy: a register of research, development and demonstration in the United Kingdom. Part 3. Renewable energy. (Available from HMSO, £16.).

Micro Workshop

An impartial source of advice for small businesses interested in adopting microcomputers is available in London with the opening yesterday by the National Computing Centre of its first Micro Workshop.

An offshoot of the NCC's recently formed Microsystems Centre division, the workshop offers a range of services for the prospective user of micro-based systems. There is a comprehensive bookshop; a do-it-yourself computer-based information service covering available machines, software packages and suppliers; a selection of representative microcomputers which can be tried working on real problems; and professional advice from staff consultants.

With the support of the Department of Industry, the workshop also offers training courses and a subscription service which gives preferential access to Microsystems Centre facilities. Mr Derek Scriven, director of the centre, said that it would be self-supporting within three years. A federation with other organizations is planned.

A second Micro Workshop is to be set up in Manchester later this year, and others are expected to follow. The range of prices of the systems demonstrated at the London workshop (11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1PU, telephone 01-353 0013) is from about £1,500 to about £10,000.

Classifying leather

A microprocessor-based system for measuring and classifying leather hides at the "wet tanned" stage of processing has been developed by Edward Wilson & Son, Liverpool-based suppliers of leather processing equipment. Known as Photoscan, the system automatically measures the area and thickness of the hides and, in conjunction with an assessment of quality which is entered manually via an operator's keyboard, enables them to be classified into batches.

At the heart of the system is a Texas Instruments microprocessor using bubble memories to store the production control data. Software was developed by Triad Computing Systems, London, under contract to Wilsons; a prototype system in 1979 was followed by an improved version last year. Installations for tanners in the United States, Germany and the United Kingdom have already been completd.

Design deal

Allied International Designers, the design and market research group, has acquired 90 per cent of the share capital of Dalton Viewing and Whitsey (DVW), a technical consultancy which has designed a variety of microcomputer-based products.

These products have included industrial control equipment, machine tools and consumer goods including television games and electronic toys. Mr David Viewing, DVW managing director, claimed yesterday that "electronic systems designed by our seven designers accounted for almost half the microprocessors used in products manufactured in Britain last year".

Kenneth Owen

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Archbishop's attack on the City's role

From Mr Peter H. G. Cadbury

Sir, I believe I am not alone in being astonished by the general nature of the Archbishop of York's attack on the City of London, and those who work in it, contained in his Lenten address broadcast last Sunday. The theme of his address was the Commandment, "Thou shalt not steal", and his message was that, in this context, the activities of those who work in the City can be equated with the Great Train Robbers, both being equally guilty of stealing, but, whereas the Train Robbers received long jail sentences, the Archbishop implied that City workers receive honours and respect from the community for their dishonest acts. What categorized the Archbishop's attack, however, was that he did not single out for censure those who committed white collar crimes such as insider dealing, but instead he chose to make a general attack on the City's legitimate activities.

To the Archbishop, the City appears to exist just to manipulate money markets and to make takeover bids for the benefit of the employees of City organizations. In fact, the chief beneficiaries from takeovers are, of course, the shareholders of public companies, who to an increasing extent are institutions such as the Church Commissioners and the Central Board of Finance. The Archbishop clearly does not appreciate that, like any other professional adviser, those who advise on takeovers are normally paid a straight salary in no way linked to the outcome of a particular transaction, and any other benefits they receive probably fall far short of the perks given to Archbishops.

The City is also not just about takeovers and money markets. An increasing role for the City is, for example, working with third world countries to raise finance and advise on projects designed to improve the economies of developing countries. Admittedly, such work is rarely conducted for charitable purposes, but if the result is a project which will provide employment and a higher standard of living to the people of a poor country, as well as assisting its balance of payments, then surely this is at least as effective as preaching about the third world from the security of a cathedral pulpit.

A major reason why the City stands pre-eminent in the financial world, at present, stems from the impartiality of the advice and the high standard of business ethics for which the City can justifiably be proud. Of course, there will always be people who fall short of these standards, just as even a few clergymen may also prove wanting. However, if the Church of England wishes to cast out as thieves all who work in the City, then it is comforting to know that there are other Christian sects, such as the Quakers, who will welcome them, and who can demonstrate that business life and Christian ethics can still coexist. Unlike the Archbishop, they, at least, do still believe that to strive after high moral standards in business or commercial life remains a worthy and a Christian deal.

Yours faithfully,
P. H. G. CADBURY,
9 Selwood Terrace,
London, SW7.
April 1.

Incentives for industrial cooperatives

From Mr Paul Derrick

Sir, Mr John Hands is surely right in arguing that industrial cooperatives should be encouraged; so why does the Chancellor discriminate against them and discourage them from ploughing back as high a proportion of earnings as the companies with which they compete?

When a company ploughs back its earnings it can issue bonus shares to its shareholders without tax liability at the time and they participate in the growth of assets. Since 1978 it can also issue bonus shares to its workers free of tax—up to £500 worth a year in 1978 with the limit increased to £1,000 in 1980. The members of an industrial cooperative are both its shareholders and its workers; but if an industrial cooperative issues bonus shares to its worker members they are liable to tax at their full personal rate. This kind of discrimination distorts competition and this Government claims that it tries to avoid doing this.

Mr Nigel Lawson claimed on July 3 last that the 1978 tax concession with regard to the issue of shares to workers could apply to industrial cooperatives; but some minor changes are needed in the 1978 Finance Act if it is so to apply. The Treasury appears unwilling to make these adjustments in spite of a request from the Co-operative Development Agency.

Mr Peter Rees in his innocence appears to imagine that because the return paid on co-operative shares is limited so that they do not appreciate in value it therefore follows that the worker members of an industrial cooperative have no incentive to identify themselves with the enterprise for which they work and which they also own.

Such naivety is incredible. In fact, of course, the worker has a much greater incentive to identify himself with the enterprise for which he works in an industrial cooperative than in any employee shareholding scheme. He owns the enterprise and shares in its fortunes in proportion to work contributed. The Mondragon cooperatives have shown how workers' participation in the growth of assets can encourage high investment; but the British Government chooses to discriminate against industrial cooperatives and penalize the workers' own enterprises by effectively excluding them from the 1978 concession with regard to tax liability when shares are issued to workers. Mr Rees should study the way in which industrial cooperatives are taxed in France. The Mondragon co-operatives have suggested that the same kind of arrangements should apply throughout the EEC.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL DERRICK,
30 Wandsworth Bridge Road.
London, SW6.
April 3.

Funds for biotechnology

From Dr M. W. Fowler

Sir, The Government have just published a White Paper on biotechnology (notable in its use of large amounts of biomass rather than for any positive contribution it makes) suggesting that industry in the United Kingdom should provide resources for the development of that science in this country. I was therefore aghast to read in *The Sunday Times* of March 29 that Grand Metropolitan Hotels had made a contribution of £4.4m to the coffers of Biogen, a *Swiss* based research organization. While I have a great respect for the scientists and people of Biogen, there are a number of laboratories in the United Kingdom active in various areas of biotechnology who could have made excellent use of such investment and have probably produced an earlier return through commercialization. Half the figure put up by Grand Metropolitan would have set up most of the big university biotechnology operations in this country for the next ten years.

So much for the Government asking United Kingdom industry to invest in developing science in their own country. The cynical logic is that those of us with large contract research operations in United Kingdom universities should decamp to Geneva or Zurich, and apply to United Kingdom companies from there.

Yours in great sadness,
M. W. FOWLER,
*Institute Director,
Wolfson Institute of
Biotechnology,
University of Sheffield.*

The challenge of selling

From Mr E. H. White

Sir, I recently suffered similar experiences to those of Mr James Pilditch. (April 3).

I was in the market for a new car in the middle of February and called at the showrooms of the two principal franchise holders for a large British manufacturer. In both cases, I had to hang about looking at models on display for some ten or so minutes before I was approached by a member of staff. I described my requirements as to model, colour, etc.

Both salesmen (so-called) told me that they could not offer delivery in less than four months. I indicated that I required the car now. No effort was made by either man to interest me in anything else from a very wide range or to see if any other dealer in the country had what I wanted in stock. It seems that, generally, these motor car salesmen are merely order-takers.

In contrast, I walked the few yards to the used car department of the second dealer. Here, the young man who attended to me could not have been more helpful. He obviously intended to sell me a car if he could and he did. I spent some three thousand pounds less than I had intended and came away with a very nice car, a different model, but well satisfied with the deal I had been able to do.

Before my retirement, I was frequently involved in selling in the wholesale fruit and vegetable trade. Any potential customer was a challenge. He might give the impression that what I was offering did not interest him, but he simply had to go in my sales ticket book. If he did not, then I was falling down on the job and not doing my best for my employer. Incidentally, I was not paid on a commission basis.

Mr Pilditch's last paragraph sums it all up. Its not all unions and restrictive practices that have brought us to our present sorry state. What we need is more people doing the job for which they are paid and doing it well.

Yours faithfully,
E. H. WHITE,
72 Orchard Hill,
Little Billing,
Northampton NN3 4AG
April 3.

More cost effective job creatio

From Mr Peter Ward

Sir, It was most encou to learn from your today "Chipmakers chas funds", April 1) tha Department of Industry i ing City institutions to indigenous technology remains to be seen w banking and other hous ready to alter policie practice on which the thrived for many years. is better than overdepe on inward investment, means of creating weal jobs.

A company, complet central services, drawn development area or ent zone is always welcome, in this case it is likely t from elsewhere in the Kingdom, presumably a other area's expense. F national viewpoint, investment suggests th source is overseas and t development a branch of more questionable be

There must be mor effective ways of job c Not only are the bran tories costly in terms of times quite remarkable ments and the spre geographically competing try-attraction agencies, ti tier, but also and more tant, branch factorie usually the first to cl times of trouble.

Of course, there hav notable successes, IB Greenock for example; history of branch-factor ures is disturbing and c study, from Joy Manufa (Inverclyde 1977) to (Tyne and Wear 1981) with parent companies United States.

More experience is now able and it is clear that has given careful thou the choice of Britain base in Europe. On the the announcement, co was cautious, with only ward glance (one e slightly raised) at the allocated to BL a day before. More pertinent the reports that followed afterwards.

First, there came a ref to industrial action, in at the impending clos BL's plant in Belgiu Seneffe: and then the that Peugeot-Citroen planning to withdraw Linwood, lopping the branch, as Carlyle may said, to preserve the tree.

There is a nice irony choice of Talbot for the company's United Ki marque. Brought up on court and Crecy, few remember Castillon, wh large English army was t and destroyed. It was th battle in the Hundred War when, apart from hold in Calais, the E were finally driven o France. The name of defeated commander, h killed in the action?—Sir Talbot.

PETER WARD,
Trio,
Carlton Road,
South Godstone,
Surrey RH9 8LE.
April 1.

Radioactivity of coal fires

From Dr S. J. Peerless

Sir, One important fact re to the general discussic energy policy now proce seems not yet to be v known and even less v appreciated. I refer to radioactivity released coal is burned. Coal co small quantities of ura and thorium together their "daughter produ Although the proportion these substances are ex ingly small, because of enormous quantities of consumed by a power st the absolute quantities of activity released to the sphere are significant. actual amount depends on source of the coal and efficacy of the equipment to clean the discharge. servative estimates ind that a typical American fired station emits many t more radioactivity than average nuclear station similar capacity.

Before any large increas coal-burning is undertaken this country, it would surel wise to carry out similar culations for British coal exhaust-treatment plant.

These radioactive discha are, of course, in addition the very large quantities chemical pollutants dischar by coal-fired stations. Mos your readers will still rem ber the atmospheric pollu of pre-nuclear days. Coal bu ing has been improved si then, of course, partly by at improvements in exha cleaning, partly by the sim expedient of spreading po tion over a wider area fr taller exhaust stacks.

In this respect at least, large long-term increase in burning would be a retrogr movement. Coal surely has important place in our fut energy economy, but as a mical feedstock and parti larly as a basis for liquid production, rather than as input to the comparativ crude processes occurring even modern coal-burn power stations.

Yours faithfully,
S. J. PEERLESS,
Department of Mechani Engineering,
Imperial College of Scie and Technology,
Exhibition Road,
London SW7 2BX.
March 31, 1981.

هكذا من الأصل

EDITOR

More co... effective job crea...

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

As sterling begins to falter . . .

ncern over the Polish situation partly plained the movement of European funds o the dollar yesterday. But it was not the y reason. Dollar interest rates were ner again, and last Friday's disappointing ited States wholesale price figures will pport the view that interest rates may nsolidate around present levels for the ment.

Meanwhile, sterling's weakness, at the ment is not simply a reflection of a onger dollar. The pound faltered against er major currencies too as speculation reased that March banking figures due ay could justify an early reduction in R.

Whether that will prove the case will be arer this afternoon but in the domestic rket at least there is a wide range of ws as to what the Bank of England will e to say about the indicated growth of ling M3 in March. They vary from a fall per cent to a rise of 1¼ per cent.

In outcome towards either end of that ge could have a significant impact on gilt-edged market. The market, as I gested yesterday, is not quite sure where s going at the moment, and the March olesale price figures will not have helped make up its mind.

According to the annual report, Trident is hoping to retain a 20 per cent interest in the two franchises along with a revenue base from the hiring out of its studios. But the rub lies in trying to decide what value the floated off companies can command.

Trident has been arguing forcibly that Yorkshire cannot stand on its own feet without being subsidized by the smaller Tyne Tees region although as other interests have shown enthusiasm for coming in Trident's tune seems to have changed recently. Certainly any prospectus for Yorkshire would make unexciting reading to strictly commercial investors with the industry as a whole, even before the Fourth Channel burden, looking at a 1982 loss.

On last year's profits, the two franchises would probably have a stockmarket value of £15m which along with cash balances and its ancillary activities earning over £2m suggests that the shares at 47p, against a net worth of 55½p, are holding little hostage to fortune. But that assumes Trident will reach an accommodation with the IBA over contracts, and, as Southern discovered, nothing is certain.

● *Mr Michael Ashcroft has now done what he has been promising to do for at least a year by producing plans for a merger of his two quoted companies, Hawley Leisure and Provincial.*

That will be effected by an offer in Hawley equity for Provincial, the outcome if the deal goes through being a new group with interests ranging through sports goods, amusement machines (a big earner for Hawley now) and building maintenance, including laundries which is Provincial's original business.

In essence, this amounts to a tidying up of Mr Ashcroft's quoted interests (and some of his private ones, too, since there are also going to be terms for buying out his family controlling stake in Michael A. Ashcroft Services a merger broking business for £235,000) preparatory to something even bigger.

That point was not lost on the market. Shares in Pritchard Services, another industrial services group, in which Provincial holds a 21 per cent stake following a "dawn raid" last year rose by 3p to 166p.

On a pro-forma basis Mr Ashcroft's proposed new Hawley Group would be valued in the market at not far short of £40m, while Pritchard is worth £50m. Mr Ashcroft's ambition may be to close that gap and then launch a bid for Pritchard whose board has shown little enthusiasm for this 36-year-old "new wave" entrepreneur. It refused to take him on as a director.

ghland Distilleries

ost-Budget ngover

n The Famous Grouse brand has been ble to prevent profits tumbling earth-ds at Highland Distilleries. The industry has been sent reeling under the effects recession and customer destocking.

nterim profits are down almost a fifth £2.46m while an 8 per cent fall at the interest level after a 16 per cent sales rease shows what has happened to rgins.

At home, at least, The Famous Grouse ntinues to reverse the industry trend. ume has increased by a tenth: market re in England has risen by perhaps two nts to 8 per cent. But exports fell 20 cent although there has been a 7 per t increase in the first three months of calendar year which suggests an end he United States' destocking phase.

ut Highland has been particularly hard by a slump in sales of new fillings and ure malts reflecting action by the big ders to minimize stock financing in the e of a possible slump in demand this r of as much as 10 per cent.

Meanwhile, in the eerie silence in the lling trade following the 60p-a-bottle lget increase, Highland reports its dis-ries are operating at just over 50 per t of capacity. Prospects that could rove as retailers' pre-Budget stocks are off.

earing, meanwhile, remains fairly sonable although interest charges bled to £584,000 at the six months stage capital spending dropped by two-thirds ing the period.

rofits this year could reach £5m against m and the shares, having underperned the market by almost 50 per cent e the Hiram Walker bid for the group blocked last year, now seem to be istic. Down 1p to 96p yesterday they a likely p/e ratio of around 13 rising lmost 25 on a full-taxed basis and yield per cent assuming the final payment, the interim, is only maintained.

owever, there must be hope that by the of this year Highland will scent suffi-t recovery in the industry to increase yment which was 1½ times covered by year's earnings on a current cost basis.

dent Television

othing can certain

ent and the Independent Broadcasting ority have been at each other's throats since the group was ordered to give control of its two franchise areas, shire and Tyne Tees, when the new acts were allocated at the end of last

e delay suggests that there are still us problems over the two contracts and te Trident's assertions in its latest al report that it has arrived at proposals should enable it to meet the IBA's line this week, shareholders should not ne that Trident's arguments, particu- over the financial viability of shire, have forced the IBA to see the of its ways.

'Bulldog' bonds

Now Mexico tests the water

The depth of the re-awakened "bulldog" market is about to be put to its biggest test yet. Within the next few days the Pemex, Mexico's state-owned oil company, is due to launch a £50m long-dated bond issue, managed by Lloyds Bank International, in the domestic United Kingdom market.

Since the sterling foreign bond market was re-opened last year by Denmark issues have been arranged by Iceland and Sweden. Finland is reported to be planning a deal, along with some of the world's leading corporations, including IBM, and some French nationalized industries.

Indeed, the queue run by the Bank of England is said to be full for the next three months or so. In this kind of company, how will the institutions respond to a Mexican borrower?

If the international credit markets are anything to go by there should be no difficulties.

While Denmark and Sweden have been losing favour because of the parlous state of their economies, Mexico has been winning friends because of its oil resources.

It now borrows from banks on terms almost as good as the Scandinavians can obtain. Some bankers consider Pemex to be an even better credit than the Mexican state itself.

The issue's acceptability will depend on the margin of advantage it offers over comparable gilts; however, Sweden's successful recent deal gave three quarter per cent and has since been trading at a narrower margin.

But that issue was short-dated and, as such, brought in foreign as well as domestic buyers. Long maturity issues have little attraction for typical international investors and Pemex may have to follow the example of Iceland, which paid a 1 per cent premium, if it wants a success.

Patrick Minford

A dangerous and dishonest game


364 blasts at Maggie

Economists give low marks to Government

University economists join in rejecting Thatcher monetarism

BRITAIN'S RECESSION

Stuck in slump?

Last week a group of prominent economists published an attack on the Government's strategy In this article a leading monetarist argues that the critics are wrong

The 364 "Keynesians" who signed last week's statement attacking the government's handling of the economy have forgotten some salient facts, which would not have escaped their master. The public sector accounts in 1932, the trough of the Great Depression, appear to have been in significant financial surplus when adjusted for the economic cycle (ie, after deducting the effects of the cycle on revenue and social expenditures). The money supply had grown at less than 1 per cent a year and prices had fallen by more than 2 per cent a year over the previous five years. So Keynes could rightly observe that the actual deficit could be increased with no threat to (indeed restoration of) price stability.

Today the public sector still has a massive borrowing requirement when adjusted for the cycle—in the fiscal year 1979-80 about 5 per cent of gross domestic product and in 1980-81 about 4 per cent. This has been sustaining high inflation. But the budget for 1981-82, if plans are fully carried out, will cut this percentage to about 1 per cent of gdp and lay the basis for permanently lower inflation, even eventual price stability.

While one can write pages of algebra and estimate scores of statistical relationships, the essentials of the inflationary process are simple. It starts when a government, unwilling to cover its expenditure by overt taxation, borrows from the public.

As interest rates rise, in order to induce the public to lend, political pressures develop to hold them down. Lending to the government from the public slows down and the central bank has to lend the difference, which, of course, it does by increasing the supply of money.

During the early stages output usually rises, as extra monetary demand is met by producers whose expectations of inflation have not yet altered and who therefore think that rising prices offer them higher real returns. Expected inflation will soon increase, however, as information both about the policies and actually rising prices becomes widely known. This causes prices to rise faster and output to fall back.

At some point the increase in the rate of growth of money supply and so of monetary demand is entirely accounted for by an equal increase in inflation and output has dropped right back to where it would have been.

This description is widely accepted by serious students of macroeconomics. True, there have been—and persist—differences of view in particular about time lags and the interaction of fiscal and monetary influences. These differences ironically have been as great or even greater within the ranks of "monetarists" than between them and "Keynesians". But the economists who have developed this general line of thinking include as many Keynesians as monetarists. Indeed, the mechanism is named after a Keynesian, A. W. Phillips, who taught at the London School of Economics in the fifties.

Yet part (A) of the statement by the 364, on which the other parts are essentially based, explicitly rejects this mechanism in stating that "deflating demand" will not "bring inflation permanently under control" and thereby induce "an automatic recovery in output and employment". For, of course, that is precisely what the same mechanism asserts when the process of deficit and money creation is put into reverse, as the present Government is doing.

Charity dictates that we interpret this rejection by 364 economists as an unintentional lapse; otherwise it would make nonsense of their professional work.

To carry out this reversal of the inflationary process, to break the inflation psychology, political courage and determination of a high order are necessary because of the short-term pressures that are generated—the strong vested interests on the expenditure side, the unpopularity of higher taxes, the temporary misery of the initial recession. At a certain point in the process the siren voices murmuring easy options can become irresistible; the minds of Ministers, untrained in economics, can hardly be blamed for being easily seduced. But hard-headed professionals require our most severe censure if they back such nonsense.

One such suggestion is that instead of reducing inflation we should stabilize it as its existing level and "live with it". Yet recent studies have come up with very large costs for this option (e.g. Feldstein in 1979 for the United States, G. W. Hilliard and myself in 1978 for the United Kingdom), costs which appear to be far higher than any transitional loss of output that could be involved in eliminating inflation.

The more popular easy options are reflation to increase output, with incomes policy to prevent inflation, a view usually backed by the glib assertion that the economy suffers from widespread "market failure". This is the route both of some clever general equilibrium theorists and of others who are utterly ignorant of modern macro-economics. But a convincing theoretical account of an economy which would respond as hoped to these policies has yet to be constructed.

The evidence is brutal. Incomes policies have broken down repeatedly since 1960, leaving no trace on the inflation rate. Reflation has been followed by inflation and output has continued to rise slowly, with the massive extra demand (e.g. real disposal incomes rose by more than 7 per cent per annum from 1977 to 1979) going into imports.

The effects of counter-inflationary policies have been superimposed on the adjustment to North Sea oil and a world recession of broadly the severity of 1974-75. The strains on particular companies and industries in the international sector have been intense. But there is no evidence that those with sound long-term prospects are going to the wall. Instead, we have seen rationalization, the reduction of overmanning and a sharp reduction in wage settlements. Indeed, the stock market is now increasing the capitalization of even the hardest hit sectors.

In the short run, this process worsens unemployment. But, in the long run, unemployment by general agreement can only be eliminated by this and other improvements in competitiveness. Bitter experience has confirmed what monetary theory predicts—that devaluation and incomes policies are incapable of raising competitiveness for more than a brief period. It is likely, however, that union power, high labour taxes and social security benefits and a heavily controlled housing market help to create serious unemployment and lower competitiveness.

Economic analysis can help to identify solutions. But the economist who downs tools to sign petitions for apparently political ends is playing a dangerous and dishonest game, even with 363 others.

The author is Professor of Applied Economics at the University of Liverpool.

German newspapers try to break the TV monopoly

Bonn

The fight is on to introduce a full-blooded system of commercial television in West Germany, where at present BBC-style public corporations have a broadcasting monopoly.

At the end of February the German newspaper publishers' association agreed to join a new European commercial station, to be based in Luxembourg, which plans to start transmitting programmes via its own satellite some time in the middle of 1985. Within a few weeks the association announced that the required capital had been promised.

The prospects of acquiring a licence to print money are attractive in Germany, too.

The new company is being formed by the private Luxembourg radio and television concern, Compagnie Luxembourgeoise de Télédiffusion (CLT), better known as RTL, Radio Tele Luxembourg. M Gustave Grass, RTL's general director, offered the German newspaper publishers a 20 per cent stake and the separately organized magazine proprietors a 10 per cent share in three satellite television channels—one for France and South Belgium, another for The Netherlands and North Belgium and the third for West Germany. Germany's 30 per cent share is costing DM120m (about £23.5m).

Since 1929 RTL has had the right to use, or to rent out, all the channels and frequencies allocated to Luxembourg by international agreements. It does not charge fees, but its business flourishes nonetheless. In 1979 it had a turnover of about DM370m and made a profit of DM57m (£12.1m). It runs five radio programmes, for France and Belgium, West Germany, Britain, The Netherlands and Luxembourg, as well as a television programme that can be seen not only in Luxembourg but also in northern France and a large part of Belgium. Overall, RTL caters for 35 million regular listeners and viewers.

But recently the shareholders, most of whom are French or Belgian, have not been spoiled by large dividends. In 1979 a total of DM1.36m (about £289,000) was distributed. Clearly, RTL has been saving up for its ambitious satellite TV project. The total capital requirements of the new company are put at DM400m.

The technology of satellite television has made enormous strides in recent years. Under existing arrangements some 5,000 transmitters are needed to supply West German households with television. A single satellite, however, can beam television not only to the whole of West Germany, but to an area from the Atlantic to Berlin and from the Alps to southern Sweden. Moreover, the costs are much lower than for conventional transmission—some experts say only a tenth. A special aerial is required to receive satellite television, though, and it is expected that this will cost about DM1,000 (£212).

The newspaper publishers are confident that in the longer term this cost, which will undoubtedly be a deterrent to many people, can be avoided. It is expected that despite the objections of the Federal Government West Germany will one day have a full cable network for television transmissions. In that event, a single large aerial would enable a sizable town to receive television by satellite. This possibility made the offer from RTL all the more tempting.

Satellite television, already well established in the United States, would be a novelty in Europe. But it is not only RTL which is busily preparing to introduce it here. A company known as Telsat AG has been formed with British participation in Switzerland with the aim of transmitting satellite programmes in German, French and Italian beginning in 1983 or 1984. There is also a German-French agreement to launch a television satellite at the end of 1983. This would enable one of Germany's main networks—Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen—to open a new channel.

What is in the RTL deal for the German newspaper and magazine publishers? It has been agreed that RTL satellite programmes for Germany should limit their advertising time to a single 20-minute period each day. This is in line with the present dosage of advertising administered by each of the two main channels in Germany. It sounds modest—there is no advertising on German television after 8 pm—but it is very lucrative. Advertising revenue accounts for half the income of the Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen.

For years the newspaper proprietors, faced with constantly rising costs, which have led to newspaper closures and an undesirable degree of concentration, have been bemoaning the loss of advertising to the radio and television corporations.

The prospect of private television for Germany — made by a company outside the country at that—has caused a minor sensation. "Attack from space", "Luddites v Luxembourg" and "Big row in the skies" were some of the headlines which followed the publishers' announcement.

The plan is being heavily contested by the Social Democratic party, the senior partner in the Federal Government, and is heartily disliked by the Chancellor, Herr Helmut Schmidt.

The Chancellor is already dismayed by the amount of time the average German citizen spends in front of the television set and once caused a stir by suggesting that people should refrain from viewing on at least one day a week. Now he sees a danger of a tasteless free-for-all and would certainly not welcome a television channel over which the establishment had no control.

The newspaper proprietors argue that West Germany is obliged by international agreement to permit the free flow of information across frontiers and that to reject this principle would be playing the Soviet Union's game. The Chancellor has hinted, however, that the realization of the Luxembourg scheme will take longer than either the publishers or RTL think.

It is pointed out in Bonn that it is up to the Federal Government to grant the frequencies for radio and television.

But it is difficult to see how in the long run the tide can be stemmed. A year ago the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* prophesied that one day Germany would have a choice of 60 television programmes. It looks as if that day has come a step closer.

James Hutchinson

Business Diary: Was marriage ever out of fashion?

ks to me as if Lord Mac-the Lord Chamberlain, is to snatch defeat from the of victory over this busi-of preventing British manufacturers from ex-g Prince Charles and Di.

MacArthur, the director British Textile Confedera-which represents manufac-and unions, is to write to hamberlain today showing oreign manufacturers are y selling textiles in Lon-bearing the royal photo-s and insignia

Arthur wrote complaining d Maclean last week after tter excluded British tex-from a relaxation of the and copyright rules ted to allow makers of souvenirs to commemorate edding.

Chamberlain, I hear, d to the confederation day saying that though fice will help to produce s within the rules, the al ban on the use of royal s and insignia stays so s the textiles industry is rned.

s, at a stroke, is undone e well-meaning work by Charles to liven up the Family's anachronistic y image. In vain has the trailed around factories at through turgid Neddy ngs.

At stake are jobs and millions of pounds in revenue for a hard-pressed domestic industry. The demand from the public, MacArthur is saying, is for patriotic, rather than saucy, motifs on Tee-shirts, tablecloths, hankies and so on. Sounds ghastly to me, but business is business.

But the Lord Maclean is not a man of business. Chamberlain since 1971, he is a retired Scots Guards major, former Chief Scout and convenor of the Standing Committee of Scottish Chiefs. He is also a dogooder of an Andean scale, but on this occasion he is not doing the British textile industry any favours.

● George Richardson, the chief executive of Oxford University Press, has an embarrassing row on his hands after the delegates turned down a don's commissioned manuscript. The don is Anthony Mockler, a research fellow at St Antony's and the work is *Haile Selassie's Wars*, an abridged translation from a longer work by Mockler published in Italy.

The furious Mockler has now advertised in *The Spectator* asking other authors who had their contracts "dishonoured/infringed" by OUP to get in touch with him. He was not available for comment last night.

Like many publishers now, OUP is cutting down on titles published for commercial reasons, so other disaffected dons might rally to his standard.

OUP said last night that Mockler's book was rejected because "the treatment of the subject was unsuccessful academically".





Reed Executive, the employment agency, was mindful of the requirements of the press even when announcing a fall in profits of £2.9m to £249,000. They sent us a suitably glum picture of the chairman Alec Reed (left) so that the news would not contrast too sharply with the happy one sent to us before (right). The company were clearly thinking ahead at the photographic session in 1977, when apparently both photographs were taken. (Report, page 20.)

● The Association of Independent Radio Contractors, the trade association of commercial radio stations, has a new chief in Bill Coppen-Gardner, a man without radio experience.

Coppen-Gardner is moving over from the brewers Courage, where he carries the title of retail trade coordinator, managed houses. He replaces one of the AIRC's founding fathers, Tony Stoller, who quit the stormy post to manage his own station, Radio 210 at Reading.

According to some reports, the mild-mannered Stoller left disillusioned by the creative tension, not to say turmoil, between individual station members of the AIRC. Donald Brooks, managing director of Radio Orwell in Sheffield and one of those responsible for Coppen-Gardner's appointment, believes otherwise, however.

"I know the statements you're talking about and they were heavily over-stated. Tony Stoller himself certainly disagrees with a lot that has been written. If you take any trade association you are going to get a lot of people who disagree all the time."

Coppen-Gardner has no radio experience. He is an administrator, organization planner and personnel executive. Brooks says: "We had a lot of applicants, but I wouldn't say it was an easy job to fill. We're quite convinced now we've got the right man."

Udderwise: the most unusual complaint received by John Beighton, chief inspector of the Alkali and Clean Air inspectorate, in 1979 was from "a resident" who claimed that the udders of one of his goats had turned black because of fluoride poisoning. The Min of Ag found nothing and the goat got better of its own accord.

Ross Davies

Wallchart

Stock markets

Oils and electricals slump amid profit taking

The first day of the new financial year and further worries over Poland resulted in heavy profit-taking as the second leg of the account began on a dull note.

Among the sectors badly hit were oils and electricals as prices fell sharply. But takeover news and the higher bullion prices ensured investors of one or two bright spots.

After contending with a deluge of small sellers early on, sentiment was further hit by the emergency summit meeting in Prague and the fall in the value of sterling. Reports suggesting that the worst of the recession was now over appeared to be disregarded, and most dealers said the *FT* Index was unlikely to break through its record high this week, as was earlier predicted.

Most of the selling had been absorbed by mid-morning but the index, down 7.3 by 11 am, recovered slightly to 5.2 down an hour later. But news of a sharp fall on Wall Street in the opening hour of business saw the index close 6.1 down at 533.5.

Government securities were in a subdued mood awaiting tomorrow's banking figures, which many hope might be the prelude to another cut in minimum lending rate within the next couple of weeks. But with sterling weak and the wholesale prices index at the upper end of expectations, prices drifted gently in thin trade. In longs, falls of between £¼ and £⅜ were recorded while at the shorter end losses extended to £¼.

Little demand was again reported for the new issue Treasury 11½ per cent 1985, which slipped £1/16 to £15.

Jobbers in leading industrials were a little more cheerful as they were able to mop up more stock and alleviate the tight conditions. ICI fell 2p to 256p, Beecham 3p to 179p, Glaxo 6p to 312p, Unilever 5p to 508p, Fisons 5p to 153p; GKN 1p to 148p, Pilkington Bros 3p to 303p and British Aerospace 2p to 204p. Even Hawker Siddeley, stronger recently ahead of figures this month, shed 6p to 318p but a bright feature was seen in Bowater, which closed 1p higher at 243p.

Shares of Atlantic Resources made their debut on the USM market at 260p and rose to 300p before closing at 295p.

Acquisition news saw shares of Edinburgh & General Insurance temporarily suspended at 25p.

News of bid talks saw shares of Le Vallonet suspended at 43p at the company's request.

But shares of Suter Electrical made a welcome return to the market in ex rights form with the ordinary opening at 60p and the new at 19p. The shares were suspended in January at 64p. Also making a return to the trading floor was London & European, which returned from suspension at 45p after receiving bid terms from Bardsey, 3p higher at 31p.

Elsewhere on the bid front, shares of Rothmans International "B" jumped 5p to 75p in hectic trade still in response to news that the group was in talks with RJ Reynolds of the United States. Terms for an agreed bid clipped 3p from Provincial Laundries at 54p with the prospective buyer, Hawley Leisure, also 6p lower at 57p. But Bond St Fabrics rose 4p to 43p after renewed terms from Auchinleck and Anglo Metropolitan leapt 12p to 118p after announcing it was in bid talks with First Pennsylvania Mortgage Trust.

Carpets International is yet another group whose shares are buoyed up by recovery hopes and bid possibilities. They rose 1½p to a 1981 peak of 22½p yesterday. Last year the group lost £6.4m before tax and missed the dividend, but business abroad should recover well this year. Net asset value is nearly 80 per cent above the share price.

Ahead of a statement on the latest developments in its bid for British Sugar, unchanged at 301p, S & W Berisford retreated 6p to 214p while fading bid hopes clipped 6p from Reardon Smith "A" at 142p.

Disappointing trading news clipped 5p from Reed Executive at 39p with Highland Distillers losing 1p to 96p while in builders Bryant Holdings eased 2p to 85p and Taylor Woodrow, reporting on Thursday, hardened 6p to 581p.

Still reflecting recent figures, E Upton added 4p to 33p and Ely's (Wimbledon) 11p to 216p with Sharna Ware losing 15p to 133p and Wm Jacks 3p to 20p.

Fears of a tax on package holidays lopped 10p from Horizon Travel at 247p and 7p from Saga Holidays at 313p.

Weekend comment boosted Tozer Kemsley 5p to 58p, Derek Crouch 6p to 252p, Babcock International 3p to 132p, Woodhall Trust 3p to 153p, Newbold Burton 10p to 56p and 2p apiece to Dreamland at 25p and Johnson & Firth Brown at 24p.

Profit taking saw electricals come in for an early shakeout, but jobbers described conditions as still volatile. GEC shed 10p to 673p, Plessey 5p to 328p, Thorn EMI 2p to 352p, Racal 3p to 378p and Standard Telephone & Cable 10p to 530p. Among second liners favourable comment added 5p to Office & Electronic at 343p but another casualty was Sound Diffusion, down 8p to 115p.

In banks the big four drifted lower on sporadic selling with Barclays 5p easier at 396p, National Westminster 9p off at 351p, Lloyds down 7p to 336p and Midland 5p lower at 308p. But hopes of a counter bid pushed Royal Bank of land 12p higher at 144p as Standard & Chartered marked time at 657p.

Oils encountered heavy selling with prices closing at the bottom after the sharp setback on Wall Street. BP tumbled 10p to 370p, Shell 16p to 356p, Ultramar 8p to 473p, Lasmo 21p to 539p, Tricentrol 12p to 270p and Burmah 3p to 151p. At the cheaper end, Berkeley Exploration fell 17p to 278p, KCA International 2p to 202p and Marinex 10p to 130p. Fears that Exxon might be having second thoughts about the Rundle share project sent Southern Pacific Petroleum plummeting 25p to 63p and Central Pacific Mining 55p to 166p.

Gold shares staged a technical rally helped by the higher bullion price and weak sterling. In spite of the closure of the Cape West Driefontein jumped £3⅞ to £38¼. FS Geduld £1⅞ to £24⅝, Western Deep £1¼ to £24⅜ and Buffelsfontein £2⅛ to £22½.

At the other end, Western Mining climbed 10p to 319p, Rustenburg 10p to 242p, Sentrust 11p to 379p and Kinross 22p to 632p.

Equity turnover for April 3 was £206.451m (bargains 34,312). Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Shell, British Aerospace, ICI, GEC, Lamso, BP, Burmah and Cons Gold.

Traditional options: Dealers reported increased activity because of the new account. Calls were made in Rothmans Int at 7¾p, in Delta at 6p and British Land. Puts were arranged in BICC at 16p and Trusthouse Forte at 13p.

Traded options: A total of 1.007 contracts were made. Lonrho attracted 133, Racal 12, Shell 41, Land Securities 44 and GEC 9.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Alva In. Trust (F)	—(—)	0.17*(0.15*)	11.04(9.36)	5.6(—)	29/5	10.5(9.1)
Blantyre Tea (F)	1.36(1.33)	0.44(0.59)	11.9(15.4)	3(—)	—	5(6)
Bryant (I)	46(44)	3.72(3.15)	5.6(3.9)	0.85(0.75)	29/5	—(5.0)
Greencoat (I)	0.92(2.03)	0.05(0.02)	—(—)	nil(nil)	—	nil(nil)
Highland Dist (I)	44.6(38.4)	2.46(3.0)	—(—)	0.8(0.8)	8/5	2.6(2.6)
M. Mole (F)	1.5(1.75)	0.13†(0.15†)	5.88†(6.51†)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Reed Executive (F)	35.63(31.97)	0.25(3.16)	—(—)	—(1.5)	—	1.5(4.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * Net. † Loss.

Reed Executive passes final after second-half loss

By Margareta Pagano

One of the country's largest employment agencies, Reed Executive, yesterday reported a second-half loss, its first ever deficit, as forecast at the interim stage.

The final dividend has been passed, giving a total payment of 2.14p gross. The total last year was 6.3p gross. The shares fell back 5p to 39p.

After first-half pretax profits of £503,000, profits for the year to December 27 are £249,000 against £3.16m in 1979. Turnover, however, advanced to £35.6m from £31.9m.

Mr Alec Reed, chairman, forecasts that losses will be recorded again this year but that the group should return to profitability in 1982.

Demand for permanent staff fell by 70 per cent at the end of last year and continues to slump. Temporary staff positions, always the first to go, dropped back last April. Small signs of recovery have been seen in demand for temporary staff in the past eight weeks.

"We think this is enough to show that employers are beginning to recruit again but it will be a long while before permanent staff are wanted", he said. "It is largely a matter of confidence."

The group's 150 branches—mainly in the South-east—have not seen an equivalent number of extra people registering for employment because there is hesitancy in changing work.

Once the economy emerges from the recession the group feels it will be ready to recover lost ground. It is for this reason that cuts have been kept to the minimum and the network of branches left intact. But 5 per cent of the workforce have lost their jobs leaving 700 employees. Costs are included in the £23,000 extraordinary item.

All employees have accepted a six month pay freeze from April to September. "Because of the redundancies and the pay freeze we thought it only equitable to omit the final dividend", Mr Reed said.

The group's 30 Medicare drugstores—started with the aim of building a business less vulnerable to cyclical trading—have shown progress over the year. Operating losses improved from 8 per cent of turnover in 1979 to 4 per cent in 1980.

The group expects the stores to show some profits this year, and to contribute more significantly in 1982. Seven branches were opened in 1979, two last year and another is due to be completed this year.

A recent property revaluation has shown a surplus of £1.2m over net book values in addition to shareholders' funds of £5.14m. Medicare assets represent 60 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Edinburgh General shares suspended

The shares of Edinbur[illegible] eral Insurance Service suspended yesterday a[illegible] the company's request. [illegible] that negotiations are a[illegible] vanced stage for the ac[illegible] of Andrew & Booth a[illegible] tial private motor i[illegible] broking company o[illegible] nationally through retai[illegible]

The successful compl[illegible] the acquisition would r[illegible] a major expansion of [illegible] surance broking activi[illegible] can be expected to p[illegible] sound basis for future

Needlers' develop[illegible] to hold profits do[illegible]

At Needlers, Mr [illegible] Needler, chairman, sa[illegible] development plans ar[illegible] erately reducing the [illegible] profitability in the sh[illegible] but the level of tur[illegible] showing that we are in[illegible] trade and consumer a[illegible] of our principal bran[illegible] concludes that the pote[illegible] the company in the [illegible] Kingdom is therefore v[illegible] indeed.

Neil & Spencer optimistic

Mr Stephen Proctor, [illegible] at Neil & Spencer Hold[illegible] the group's annual mee[illegible] "trading conditions are[illegible] tremely difficult althou[illegible] are signs that last yea[illegible] deterioration may have[illegible]

The actions being [illegible] overcome the loss of [illegible] tiveness caused by the [illegible] of sterling are prog[illegible] taking effect, and he ex[illegible] results for the first ha[illegible] current year to show [illegible] covery from those of th[illegible] half of 1980.

Eastern Produce makes bid for Ru[illegible]

Eastern Produce (H[illegible] is making a 58p-a-share [illegible] the 52 per cent of Ruo [illegible] not already own. East[illegible] acquired a further 1[illegible] cent of Ruo, the [illegible] tobacco company, whic[illegible] its total holding, with t[illegible] subsidiary, to 42.9 per [illegible]

Lawrie Plantation [illegible] with whom Eastern act[illegible] cert, already owns 4.9 [illegible] so a bid has been t[illegible] under Rule 34 of the T[illegible] Code.

Birmingham Mint acquisition

Birmingham Mint [illegible] quired Turner and Simp[illegible] Birmingham medallists, makers and silversmit[illegible] £200,000 paid in cash.

Bryant Holdings lifts payout as profits rise

By Margareta Pagano

West Midlands housebuilder and property developer Bryant Holdings increased interim profits against a background of high interest rates and tight mortgage money.

Pretax profits in the six months to November 30 rose to £3.75m from £3.15m last time. Sales advanced to £46m from £44m. The interim gross dividend is lifted 13 per cent to 1.21p.

With the results yesterday came a forecast for "creditable" full-year profits from the chairman, Mr Alan Bryant. Private house building enjoyed a good half year despite the higher interest rates and shortage of mortgage money. And future trading looked better, he said, with the building societies' success in taking deposits and a cut in interest rates. The company expects to make more than £7m for the year to May 31 against £6.5m last year.

Some 900 units were built during the period and estimates are for 1,700 in the full year—about the same as in 1979. Bryant's policy of expanding into the more prosperous southern and Thames valley regions has continued. These sales accounted for 40 per cent of total private home turnover.

Profit margins are not yet as high as expected from the south since the group started afresh with its land bank and acquired property at higher prices.

In the Midlands Bryant still builds from its land bank.

Private homes, selling from £25,000 to £100,000, are the main profit earner compared to building and civil engineering, and industrial and commercial developments.

Building and civil engineering work was maintained over the period but the group aims to reduce these activities by about a half. Although the property market was weak there has been a steady demand for its industrial and commercial developments.

Fluor launches offer

Fluor, the giant American construction group, has launched its cash tender offer for St Joe Minerals, the mining company. St Joe's directors have announced that they will accept the bid, worth $60 a share.

St Joe was the object last month of a £2,000m bid by Seagram, the Canadian drinks group. St Joe's board has fiercely resisted the takeover.

Under the terms of the agreed merger Fluor will make a tender offer to St Joe shareholders of $60 a share for the first 20.4m shares. Any shares not bought by tender will automatically be converted into 1.2 shares of Fluor common stock.

New attempt at agreement on cocoa

By Michael Prest
Commodities Correspondent

Delegates from cocoa producing and consuming countries are meeting again in London this week to try to resolve the future of the International Cocoa Organisation and bring the proposed international cocoa agreement into operation.

Since the previous agreement expired in March, 1980, the ICCO's legal status has been tenuous. It has been drawing from reserves to finance daily operations, but the cash is running low.

But today consumer members of the ILLO agreed no approach should be made to the Ivory Coast for setting up a group to study the price range agreed for the new international agreement.

While there has been a possibility of a new agreement, delegates have voted against liquidating the ICCO. Last month they voted not to use money from the $235m buffer stock fund. But now they face the danger of funds being exhausted by the end of May.

Yesterday Mr Kwesi Hackman, the ICCO's executive director, gave delegates a paper commenting on proposals by the Ivory Coast, the world's biggest cocoa exporter, that a committee be set up to study the new agreement's price provisions.

Lasmo chairman hits at supplementary levy

By Our Financial Staff

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's proposals to introduce a supplementary petroleum duty have come under fire from the chairman of London & Scottish Marine Oil, Mr Geoffrey Searle. He said the supplementary duty would be detrimental to profits and cash flow and would hinder development. A more stable system of oil taxation should be devised, he says.


Mr Geoffrey Searle, chairman of London & Scottish Marine Oil.

In his annual statement he noted that with four goverment levies on the United Kingdom oil industry—royalty, corporation tax, PRT and SPD—the combined rate would be more than 90 per cent on the marginal barrel of crude oil from a substantial field.

"Not only does an increase in taxation reduce internally generated funds which would otherwise be used for expansion", he said, "but uncertainty as to the rules and to the effects of taxation is a major factor to discourage enterprise and investment, particularly in an industry with such a long period before any return on capital is made."

He stressed that rules "more appropriate to oil industry operations and economics should be devised and that fiscal requirements should be capable of being met by changes in the rate of tax rather than by the imposition of new taxes and material alterations to the existing ones".

He also said that the integration of Lasmo and OEH had taken place smoothly and that the group was actively seeking suitable exploration and production opportunities in the United Kingdom and overseas.

Production from the North Sea reserves, in South Ninian, T Block and Andrew, should start in the mid eighties. Mr Searle said he hoped that higher natural gas prices would be offered to justify development of the gas discoveries.

He added that Lasmo was also interested in further expansion of its United States activities and that the group's first dividend would be paid this year with an interim declared at the halfway stage.

Briefly

Western Scientific Instruments has acquired BOC aviation business from Medishield Corporation, a subsidiary of BOC International. Consideration involved in transaction is not material in relation to net assets of BOC or Western Scientific.

Allied International Designers Group has acquired 90 per cent of issued share capital of Dalton Viewing and Whitsey for £30,500. Dalton designs special programmes for micro chips and designs and develops microprocessor-based products for improving performance in both industrial equipment and consumer goods.

Merger cleared in accordance with recommendation of director general of fair trading the Secretary of State for Trade has decided not to refer the merger of LK Industrial Investments and Central Manufacturing and Trading Group to the Monopolies Commission.

Blantyre Tea Holdings: Turnover for 1980 £1.36m (£1.33m). Pretax profit £445,500 (£599,000). Earnings per share, net basis (15.4p), nil basis 14.0p (18.0p). Dividend 7.14p gross (8.57p).

Anglo-International Investment Trust: Net asset value of dividend shares at March 31 was about 35.5p, and about 276p for the asset shares.

Greencoat Properties: Group turnover for 6 months to December 31 totalled £920,000 (£2.03m). Pretax loss £50,000 (profit £2,000). No dividend (same).

Alva Investment Trust: Gross income for year to February 28 is £288,500 (£239,000). Net revenue £177,000 (£150,000), after tax. Earnings per share 11.04p (9.36p). Net asset value 223p (209p) per share. Dividend making 10.5p (against 9.1p).

M. Mole & Sons: Turnover for 1980, £1.50m (£1.75m). Pretax loss £136,000 (loss £151,000). Loss per share 5.88p (6.51p). Following cessation of manufacture in the hand tool division, principal activity of group is now undertaken in name of wholly owned subsidiary Molynx and board seeks shareholders' approval to change name of company to Molynx Holdings.

Ratcliffs (Great Bridge): Chairman says in his annual statement that unless there is an easement either in recession conditions or sterling exchange rate it is difficult to see company attaining more than a break-even position for 1981.

Coronet Industrial Securities: Chairman says in his annual review that the difficult conditions faced now are providing opportunity and spur to accelerate the changes begun over a year ago.

Mount Charlotte Investments: Chairman says in his annual statement that hotels are very much better equipped than they have ever been previously. Process of improving assets is continuing and while last year benefits were not seen to any great extent, "there is no doubt that they will be seen as time goes by," he said.

Anglo Met in takeover discussions

By Rosemary Unsworth

Anglo Metropolitan Holdings, the revamped Bank and Commercial Holdings group, is holding bid talks with First Pennsylvania Mortgage Trust, an American quoted investment trust with property interests.

Anglo's shares gained 6p to 116p yesterday, capitalizing the group at £4.6m, after the shares had climbed sharply last week. The announcement was precipitated by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and further details are not expected for several days.

The bid is likely to be agreed as Mr Anthony Gumbiner, chairman, and Mr Brian Troup, another director, hold 8 per cent of the Anglo equity with an option on a further 16.6 per cent through Hallwood Metropolitan, a private company.

Mr Gumbiner is also a director of First Pennsylvania. Other Anglo shareholders include Brittania Arrow with 10 per cent and M & G Group with 9 per cent. There is also a private shareholder, Mr Rex Whittome, who holds 7.6 per cent.

Anglo, whose assets per share are estimated at about 100p, recently acquired two residential property portfolios. Calgary and Edmonton Land, was bought last year from the liquidator with properties in Woking, Surrey.

Anglo paid £1.3m for West Kent Estates, which has 170 residential units and 10 commercial properties in Sidcup.

Anglo and First Pennsylvania have a common experience of being turned around from debt-laden companies through a capital reduction, bank support and a rights issue. Anglo's latest results are likely to be published with the details of the bid. In 1979 the group made pretax losses of £167,000.

Business appointments

Scotland bank post for Mr C M Winter

Mr Charles M. Winter has been made deputy managing director of **The Royal Bank of Scotland.**

Mr Graeme S. Kidd has joined the board of **Christiani & Nielsen.**

Mr K. K. Schwarz is the new deputy managing director of **Laurence, Scott of Norwich.** He is also technical director of Laurence, Scott & Electromotors. Mr D. A. Brydon is the new special products division director at Laurence, Scott & Electromotors; Mr W. G. Harvey becomes director of the service division; Mr K. C. Jackson becomes director of the control gear division; Mr C. R. Mortimore becomes director of the rotating machines division; and Mr T. Wardley becomes director of the foundry division.

Mr John B. Fraser has been appointed president of **Morgan Grenfell Incorporated** in New York. He has also become a director of Morgan Grenfell International.

Mr Geoffrey S. Firth has become a non-executive director of **Glover Brothers (Mossley),** a member of the Capper Neill Group. He is managing director of Smith Wires, a part of the Hawkins and Tipson Group.

Mr David Aris is the new managing director of **Tyne Shiprepair,** a member of British Shipbuilders.

Mr Stephen Garrod has become assistant director of the **Direct Mail Producers Association.**

Mr Glenn M. Irvine has joined **Dolf Kohnhorst & Company** in London as senior partner.

Mr George Carruthers has been made deputy chief executive of **the National Bus Company.** Mr Irwin Dalton becomes a full-time member of the company from the same date. His board appointment will run until December 31, 1984. Mr Derek Fytche managing director of the NBC subsidiary London Country Bus Services, will become regional director in the south-east region on May 1 and joins the board of NBC management.

Dr P. J. K. Webster is now director of finance of the **Dover Harbour Board.**

Mr J. L. Geddes is the new chairman of **Cape Insulation.** Mr C. S. Robinson will succeed Mr Geddes as managing director.

Dr S. J. Ford becomes deputy managing director of **The British Aluminium Company.**

Mr Richard Barclay Smith has joined the board of **Lowland Investment Company.**

Mr Young Pung How has resigned as a director of **Sime Darby Berhad** following secondment to a **Singapore Government Corporation.**

Mr D. A. G. Monk is now on the board of **Linfood Holdings.**

Mr A. M. Edis has joined the board of **Supra Group.**

Sir John Wordie has been elected president of the **Burma Shareholders Action Group.**

Mr Anthony Rentoul has joined the partnership of **D. J. Freeman & Company,** solicitors.

Mr Nigel H. McLean has been made chief executive of **Newman Industries.**

Mr Douglas B. Kemp, managing director of W. S. Cowell, the printing and publishing division of **Grampian Holdings,** and Mr Hugh Stevenson, financial director of the group's transport division, have joined the Grampian main board.

Dr John Ginarlis is joining the partnership of **Quilter Hilton Goodison & Company.**

Mr Bill Coppen-Gardner has been made a director of the **Association of Independent Radio Contractors** from May 5.

Mr Ian Dunkley, managing director of Datron Interform has been elected as chairman of the **Computer Retailers Association.**

The board of **Finnboard (UK)** has been reconstituted and consists of Mr Jari Köhler and Mr Antti Konkola, respectively managing director and administrative director of Finnboard, Helsinki, and Mr Michael Bishop, managing director, and Mr Bertel Paulig, deputy managing director of Finnboard (UK).

Mr Alan Guest is to become chairman of the Manchester local board of **Barclays Bank** and senior local director of the bank's Manchester district. He has also been made a director of Barclays Bank UK. Mr Guest succeeds Mr Tom Ashton on June 30. Mr Ashton will remain a director of Barclays Bank and Barclays Merchant Bank.

Mr Richard Groom, **Gateway Building Society's** regional manager in Bedford, is moving to the society's head office in Worthing, to take up the new post as assistant general manager (development).

Mr Richard Porter has been made a director of **Reed Stenhouse Marketing.**

Mr C. G. Boyd becomes a deputy chairman of **Brickhouse Dudley.**

WHOLESALE PRICES

Indices (1975 = 100) of wholesale prices of manufactured goods and the basic materials and fuels purchased by manufacturing industry published by the Department of Industry yesterday.

	Output prices (home sales) (1)	Prices of materials and fuels (2)	% Change in previous 6 months at an annual rate of (1)	(2)
1980				
March	194.3	200.4	19.0	35.1
April	197.0	202.3	19.5	28.4
May	196.0	200.4	20.2	16.2
June	201.0	201.1	20.1	15.3
July	202.7	201.7	20.1	15.3
Aug	203.5	201.8	13.1	3.8
Sept	204.6	202.1	10.9	1.7
Oct	205.3	201.4	8.6	−0.9
Nov	206.2	203.4	7.4	3.0
Dec	206.7	205.1	5.9	4.0
1981				
Jan	209.9	209.7	7.2	3.1
Feb	212.0	214.9	8.5	12.5
March	214.8	217.4	10.2	15.3

RETAIL SALES

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for the volume of retail sales and the value of new instalment credit released by the Department of Trade.

	Sales by volume (1975 = 100)	New credit extended £m	Implied change in debt
1979			
1st Qtr	105.8	1,635	369
2nd Qtr	113.0	1,877	433
3rd Qtr	106.6	1,875	472
4th Qtr	109.1	1,959	456
1980			
1st Qtr	110.2	2,049	538
2nd Qtr	108.2	1,964	270
3rd Qtr	108.9	1,923	222
4th Qtr	109.0	1,790	64
1980			
June	109.5	675	108
July	108.5	663	106
Aug	109.6	613	54
Sept	108.5	657	62
Oct	109.7	629	75
Nov	109.2	558	−44
Dec	108.4	603	33
1981			
Jan	114.0	618r	82r
Feb	112.9	638	65

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

[illegible] bars were barely steady [illegible] were quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £855.50-56.50 a metric tonne; three months, £877-77.50. Sales [illegible]. Cash cathodes, £847-48.00; three months, £864-65.00. Sales [illegible]. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £861-[illegible]; three months, £881.50-882.00. Settlement, £861.50. Sales [illegible]. Cash cathodes, £853.50-854.50; three months, 868-869.00. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 250 tons.

[illegible]—Standard tin was firm; high grade [illegible].—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £6,510-20 a tonne; three months, £6,[illegible]5-85. Sales, 230 tonnes. High grade cash, £6,510-20; three months, [illegible]5-85. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £6,500-6,510; three months, £6,360-6,365. Settlement, £6,510. Sales, 510 tonnes. High grade cash, £6,500-6,510; three months, [illegible]0-6,565. Settlement, £6,510. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works fell by 23 cents yesterday to [illegible] ringgit per kilo.

[illegible] was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £[illegible].00 per tonne; three months, £[illegible]50-58.00. Sales, 2,300 tonnes. [illegible]—Cash, £[illegible]; three months, £358-358.50. Settlement, [illegible]80. Sales, 4,750 tonnes.

[illegible] was firmer at yesterday's close.—[illegible]oon.—Cash, £380-81.00 per tonne; three months, £389.50-90.00. [illegible] 050 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £[illegible]; three months, £385-385.50. Settlement, £377.00. Sales, 1,550 [illegible].

[illegible]NUM was at $210.65 ($522.00) [illegible] ounce.

[illegible]R was steady.—Bullion market [illegible] levels).—Spot, 567.70p per [illegible] ounce (United States cents [illegible]ent, 1,2[illegible]); three months, [illegible]p (1,278.70c); six months, [illegible] (1,3[illegible].70c); one year, [illegible]p (1,41[illegible].50c). London Metal [illegible]age.—Afternoon.—Cash, 566-[illegible]; three months, 583-84.0p. [illegible] lots of 10,000 troy ounces. Morning.—Cash, 568.5-569.5p; [illegible] months, 5[illegible]5-586p. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 34 lots.

[illegible]INIUM was barely steady.—[illegible]oon.—Cash, £650-51.00 per tonne; three months, £660-60.50. [illegible] 2,000 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, [illegible]53.50; three months, £663-[illegible]. Settlement, £653.50. Sales, [illegible] tonnes.

[illegible]L was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,885-90 per tonne; three [illegible], £2,895-2,900. Sales, 190 [illegible]. Morning.—Cash, £2,880-[illegible]; three months, £2,885-2,890. Settlement, £2,885. Sales, 300 tonnes.

[illegible]ER was easier yesterday (pence [illegible] kilo): May, 54.50-54.70; June, [illegible]6.10; July-Sept, 57.90-58.00; Oct-Dec, 60.80-60.90; Jan-March, [illegible]3.80; April-June, 66.60-66.80; July-Sept, 69.40-69.70; Oct-Dec, 7[illegible]3.60; Jan-March, 7[illegible].30-75.40. Two lots at five tonnes each; 51 lots at 15 tonnes each.

[illegible]ER PHYSICALS closing (all [illegible] per kilo).—Spot, 53.00-54.50; May, 56.50-57.50; June, 57.00-[illegible].

[illegible]EE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): [illegible] 1,075-76; July, 1,070-71; [illegible] 1,065-66; Nov, 1,062-63; Jan, [illegible]63; March, 1,060-65; May, [illegible]69. Sales, 1,971 lots, including [illegible] options.

[illegible]CA (officials at 16.45).—April, [illegible]-150.00; June, 145.00-148.00; [illegible] 148.00-151.00; Oct, 140.00-[illegible]; Dec, 140.00-1[illegible].00; Feb, [illegible]-153.00; April, 140.00-155.00. [illegible] nil.

[illegible]A was slightly easier yesterday [illegible] per metric ton).—May, 1,041-42; [illegible] 1,072-73; Sept, 1,091-92; Dec, [illegible]14; March, 1,034-35; May, [illegible]-55; July, 1,064-72. Sales: 1,710.

[illegible]N.—The London daily price of [illegible] "raws" was £4.00 lower at £218; [illegible] "whites" price was unchanged [illegible]. Futures (£ per tonne).—[illegible] 218.75-19.00; Aug, 216.60-17.00; [illegible] 216.60-17.00; Jan, 213.00-14.50; [illegible] 213.50-14.00; May, 213.50-[illegible]; Aug, 214.00-15.00. Sales: [illegible] lots. Closing tone: Barely [illegible]. ISA prices (April [illegible]) daily, [illegible]; 15-day average, 21.71c.

[illegible]EAN MEAL was slightly steady (£ per tonne).—April, 1[illegible]-[illegible].50; [illegible] 129.00-29.40; Aug, 135.00-35.70; [illegible] 135.00-35.50; Dec, 136.00-37.00; [illegible] 136.50-38.50; April, 137.00-42.00. [illegible] 140 lots.

[illegible].—N7 Crossbreds. No. 2 contract [illegible] per kilo (clean).—May, 348-3[illegible]; [illegible] 358-363; Oct, 370-375; Dec, 372-[illegible]; Jan, 377-379; Mch, 382-385; May, [illegible].

[illegible]—AUGUST: Aug, 386-390; Oct, 385-[illegible]. Sales, 16 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—Wheat.—Canadian western red spring unquoted. U.S. dark northern spring No. 2, 14 per cent: unquoted. U.S. hard winter, 13½ per cent: April, £104.80; May, [illegible]; June, £105, trans-shipment east coast. E.E.C., unquoted. English feed, fob, April, £11[illegible]; May, £11[illegible]; June, £120, quoted east coast.

MAIZE.—U.S./French: April, £1[illegible].50, trans-shipment east coast. S. African white, unquoted. S. African yellow, April-May, £85.50.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: April, £103.25; May, £104.75, east coast. All per tonne cif U.K. unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). E.E.C. origin.—BARLEY was barely steady.—May, £10[illegible].50; Sept, £[illegible].60; Nov, [illegible]; Jan, £102.80; March, £10[illegible].50. Sales: 98 lots. WHEAT was irregular.—May, £11[illegible].60; July, £11[illegible]; Sept, £100.75; Nov, £10[illegible].75; Jan, £108.25; March, [illegible]. Sales: 157 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	—	£111.80	£[illegible].30
E. Midlands	—	£11[illegible].60	£97.20
N. East	—	—	—
Scotland	—	—	£[illegible].80

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April [illegible].—GB: Cattle, 9[illegible].42p per kg lw (+1.[illegible]). UK: Sheep, 175.02p per kg est dcw (—3.[illegible]). GB: Pigs, 7[illegible].02p per kg lw (+1.07). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 0.8 per cent, average price, 92.66p (+1.87). Sheep numbers up [illegible] per cent, average price, 178.[illegible]p (—5.70). Pig numbers down 4.[illegible] per cent, average price, 75.07p (+1.03). Scotland: Cattle numbers down 6.7 per cent, average price, 91.[illegible]p (+3.1[illegible]). Sheep numbers down 21.5 per cent, average price, 1[illegible].50p (—9.40). Pig numbers down 32.[illegible] per cent, average price, 71.87p (+3.1[illegible]).

POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £71.00; Nov, £58.60; Feb, £67.50. Sales: 66 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

London Tea Market.—There was good demand yesterday for the 48,273 packages on offer, traders said.

Assams opened quiet and although competition improved as the sale progressed, prices were up to 4p lower at the close, with dusts rather weak throughout. Bangladesh teas sold well at fully firm to dearer rates.

East African CTCS met improved demand and brighter lines closed several pence dearer. Central Africans were also well supported and often gained ground.

Demand continued strong for Ceylons and South Indians.

Medium description were fully firm, but Rwanding teas met keen competition at similarly dearer rates.—Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE: April, $30[illegible].50; May, $[illegible].50; June, $307.75; July, $31[illegible].50; Aug, $31[illegible]; Sept, $325.[illegible]; Oct, $[illegible]; Nov, $325; Dec, $[illegible]; Jan (1982), $330.00; Feb (1982), $330.50. Sales: 1,77[illegible] lots of 100 tonnes each.

Modest gains in cocoa futures

Earlier gains in cocoa futures, averaging £8.00, were pared in the late session yesterday by mixed jobber profit-taking and possible hedging. The market finally closed with the overall advance cut to £3.00 to £7.00 per tonne. Turnover was 1,710 lots, including 200 lots crossed and seven options.

LME metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (all in tonnes except silver, which is in troy ounces): Copper fell 875 to 116,150; Tin rose 540 to 6,105; Lead fell 475 to 50,450; Zinc fell 150 to 88,700; Aluminium fell 625 to 42,500; Nickel fell 240 to 3,390; Silver fell 140,000 to 24.11m.

Discount market

No intervention was required of the Bank of England yesterday. There were signs of surplus from the outset and rates stayed within a band of 11½-¾ per cent for much of the day. Some houses were able to pick up cheaper balances down to 11 per cent at one stage, but the situation was patchy at the finish, with books ruled off eventually anywhere between 11¾ and 12 per cent.

Foreign exchange report

Sterling was under pressure throughout most of yesterday's session, to close 365 points lower at $2.1690, compared with $2.2055 overnight.

The pound's trade-weighted index also took a tumble, but at the final calculation finished off the bottom at 98.7, after 98.4 at noon and compared with 99.5 at Friday's close.

Speculation that there may be another reduction in MLR shortly if the mid-March money supply statistics (out today) prove encouraging, was a principal factor behind yesterday's selling of pounds.

Some heavy commercial selling during the morning prompted support from the Bank of England, when the rate against the dollar slipped below $2.1700. A mid-session rally failed to get very far, when a fresh burst of support from transatlantic centres for the dollar initiated another sterling decline.

The United States currency, bolstered by a higher Eurodollar deposit rate, made strong gains everywhere.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) April 6	Market rates (close) April 6	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.1650-1950	$2.1685-1695	0.70-0.80c disc	1.70-1.80c disc
Montreal	$2.5670-5980	$2.5740-5750	1.10-1.20c disc	2.80-2.95c disc
Amsterdam	5.14-22fl	5.17½-18½fl	1c prem-par	2-1c prem
Brussels	76.10-77.10f	76.45-65f	120-140c disc	160-180c disc
Copenhagen	14.64-82k	14.70¾-71½k	180-345ore disc	860-1040ore disc
Dublin	1.2735-2935p	1.2805-2920p	12-26p disc	54-68p disc
Frankfurt	4.65-71m	4.67¾-68¾m	par-½pf disc	¼-¾pf disc
Lisbon	125.00-127.00e	125.55-75e	6-78c disc	25-190c disc
Madrid	188.80-190.10p	189.50-70p	70-100c disc	190-250c disc
Milan	2315-43lr	2321-23lr	13-15lr disc	43¾-46¾lr disc
Oslo	11.75-91k	11.77½-78½k	7ore prem-5ore d	70ore prem-75ore d
Paris	10.95-11.07f	11.02½-03½f	1-2c disc	4½-5½c disc
Stockholm	10.10-23k	10.13¾-14¾k	280-380ore disc	845-940ore disc
Tokyo	455-72y	457½-58½y	2.20-1.70y prem	5.90-5.30y prem
Vienna	32.90-33.35sch	33.03-07sch	3gro-par	8gro prem-2gro d
Zurich	4.24-29f	4.27-28f	2-1c prem	5-4c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 0.8 to 98.7.

Other Markets

Australia	1.8725-1.9875
Bahrein	0.8245-0.8275
Finland	8.0255-8.9695
Greece	111.70-113.70
Hongkong	11.5790-11.6190
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5960-0.5990
Malaysia	4.9625-5.0125
Mexico	51.75-55.25
New Zealand	2.3920-2.4120
Saudi Arabia	7.2035-7.2935
Singapore	4.5420-4.5720
South Africa	1.7565-1.7715

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	98.7	−27.3
US dollar	101.5	−3.0
Canadian dollar	86.3	−17.4
Schilling	115.8	+22.8
Belgian franc	107.7	+9.5
Danish kroner	89.1	−10.5
Deutsche mark	120.6	+40.5
Swiss franc	134.3	+74.4
Guilder	112.1	+15.3
French franc	86.7	−9.8
Lira	50.4	−54.9
Yen	143.4	+39.1

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.6930-1.6950
+ Canada	1.1865-1.1871
Netherlands	2.3815-2.3835
Belgium	35.19-35.21
Denmark	6.7600-6.7650
West Germany	2.1535-2.1555
Portugal	58.00-58.20
Spain	87.43-87.48
Italy	1069-1070
Norway	5.4225-5.4275
France	5.0800-5.0850
Sweden	4.6675-4.6725
Japan	214.00-214.20
Austria	15.2450-15.2550
Switzerland	1.9680-1.9700

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8424-0.8427

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%

(Last changed 10/3/81)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 11½ Low 11
Week Fixed: 11¾-11⅞

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	11⅝	2 months	11½
3 months	11⁹⁄₁₆	3 months	11⁷⁄₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%)		Trades (Dis%)	
2 months	11¹³⁄₁₆-11¹¹⁄₁₆	3 months	12¼
3 months	11¹⁹⁄₃₂-11½	4 months	12¼
4 months	11½-11⅜	6 months	12¼
6 months	11⁵⁄₁₆-11³⁄₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	13⅜-13⅛	7 months	12⅝-12⅛
2 months	12⅞-12⅝	8 months	12⅝-12⅛
3 months	12¾-12½	9 months	12½-12¼
4 months	12¾-12½	10 months	12½-12¼
5 months	12⅝-12⅜	11 months	12½-12¼
6 months	12⅝-12⅛	12 months	12¼-12

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	12²⁵⁄₃₂-12²¹⁄₃₂	6 months	11¹⁵⁄₁₆-11¹³⁄₁₆
3 months	12⁵⁄₁₆-12³⁄₁₆	12 months	11⅞-11¾

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12-11⅞	3 months	12¼
7 days	12¼-12	6 months	12
1 month	12¼	1 year	12

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 11½-11¼ Close 12½

1 week	11⅞-11⅝	6 months	12¼-12
1 month	12¼-12³⁄₁₆	9 months	12¼-12
3 months	12⁵⁄₁₆-12⅛	12 months	12¹⁄₁₆-11¹⁵⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 12¼ 6 months 12⅛

Finance House Base Rate 13%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	40.7985	41.5511	+1.84	+1.92	1.53
Danish krone	7.91917	7.98343	+0.81	+0.89	1.64
German D-mark	2.54502	2.53449	0.00	+0.08	1.14
French franc	5.99526	5.97132	0.00	+0.08	1.365
Dutch guilder	2.81318	2.80750	0.00	+0.08	1.515
Irish punt	0.685145	0.695209	+1.47	+1.55	1.665
Italian lira	1262.92	1262.81	0.00	+0.08	4.11

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13¾-14¼; seven days, 15⅝-15⅞; one month, 16¼-16¾; three months, 15¼-15½; six months, 15¼-15½.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $534.25 (an ounce); pm, $533.75 close, $531.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $548-551 (£252.5-253.75).
Sovereigns (new): $133-135 (£61.25-62.25).

Sharp rise at Metallgesellschaft

International

Parent company net profits of Metallgesellschaft rose sharply to DM40.8m (£8.9m) in the year to last September 30 from DM16.8m the year before, the company said yesterday in Frankfurt. Parent company turnover increased to DM7,000m from DM6,200m.

Herr Werner Busch, the finance director, said that in both the chemicals and transport sectors, the high levels of results last year probably could be maintained.

The group declined to forecast earnings this year. Last year domestic group earnings more than doubled to DM42m on a 14.6 per cent rise in domestic turnover to DM9,000m.

The group said it was continuing to reduce its susceptibility to cyclical trends in the economy.

Since September, the group said, demand for base metals and manufactured goods had fallen and the company could not escape from the sharp decline in new orders in the mechanical engineering industry. Herr Busch said that while unsatisfactory results were likely from the metals sector this year, it was hoped that the division would report a profit.

In manufacturing, including car parts production, Metallgesellschaft expects a small loss after a rise in profits last year. The industrial plant building sector is expected to continue to show a good result.

Dresdner Bank plunges

Consolidated net profits of the Dresdner Bank group declined by 26.4 per cent to DM203.8m (£44.3m) in 1980 while group assets climbed by only 1.8 per cent to DM123,500m, the bank said in Frankfurt.

Net profits of the parent bank slumped by 25.2 per cent to DM154.9m with assets declining by about 2.4 per cent to DM75,500m.

Because of the lower earnings, Dresdner plans to cut the 1980 dividend to DM6 from DM9 in 1979.

Herr Hans Friderichs, the chairman, refrained from making any profit or dividend projection for 1981, arguing that such a prediction was hazardous in the face of another difficult banking year ahead.

He noted that in 1980, the interest spread, or the difference between interest received on credits and refinancing costs, had contracted to an average 2 per cent from 2.2 per cent in 1979. But, he said, in the first two months of the current year, the situation improved a little.

Factoring venture

Bank of America and Nippon Shinpan, a Japanese consumer credit company, have decided to set up a joint factoring company into Japan. The new company, tentatively called International Factoring, will be established in May and will go into business in June.

It will be owned 45 per cent each by Nippon Shinpan and by BA Finance (Japan), a wholly owned Bank of America subsidiary. The rest will be owned by Japanese interests.

Wall Street

New York, April 6.—Stocks closed sharply lower as the New York Stock Exchange index fell 0.85 to 77.29 and the average price per share 40 cents.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 12.87 to 994.24 and declines led advances 1,231 to 389 as turnover slowed to 43,190,000 shares from 48,680,000 Friday.

US commodities

GOLD futures were: CHICAGO IMM. June, $620.00; July, $615.10 nominal; Sept, 640.80; Oct, $634.70 nominal; Dec, $660.30; March, $681.00; April, $674.00 nominal; June, $626.80 nominal; July, $693.80 nominal. NY COMEX. April, $526.00-528.00; May, $531.80; June, $537.00-538.50; Aug, $550.50-552.60; Oct, $564.80; Dec, $579.05-580.00; Feb, $591.60; April, $605.10; June, $618.70; Aug, $632.10; Oct, $646.10; Dec, $659.90; Feb, $673.90.

SILVER futures were: April, 1,225.30c; May, 1,234.00-1,237.00c; June, 1,251.00c; July, 1,267.00-1,269.00c; Sept, 1,299.50c; Dec, 1,345.00-1,350.00c; Jan, 1,363.50c; March, 1,395.50c; May, 1,427.50c; July, 1,459.30c; Sept, 1,491.50c; Dec, 1,539.50c.

COPPER extended midsession declines to close 0.96 to 1.05 cent lower in nearbys. May ended deepest in the minus column at 85.40 cents. April, 84.10c; May, 85.30-85.45c; June, 86.50c; July, 87.50-87.60c; Sept, 89.75-89.85c; Dec, 93.00c; Jan, 94.05c; March, 96.10c; May, 98.00c; July, 99.90c; Sept, 101.80c; Dec, 104.70c; Jan, 105.70c.

COTTON futures closed down 0.15c in spot May at 86.72c and off 0.07c in near July at 87.88c: May, 86.65-86.80c; July, 87.80-88.00c; Oct, 85.65-85.45c; Dec, 85.40-85.50c; March, 85.70c bid-81.40c asked; May, 85.70c bid-85.50c asked; July, 85.50c bid-86.00c asked.

SUGAR futures closed at the lowest in almost a year. Spot May was 0.50 cent lower at 19.40 cents a pound after trading at a low for the move 1[illegible] cents. May, 19.35-19.40c; July, 19.45-19.50c; Sept, 19.13c; Oct, 19.45c; Jan, 19.00c; March, 19.35c; May, 19.32 bid-19.40c asked; July, 19.50 bid-19.55c asked; Sept, 19.40 bid-19.75c asked.

COFFEE futures closed a fairly quiet trade near day's lows with losses of 2.50 to 1.35 cents in active months with spot May sliding most to 124.81 cents a lb. May, 124.80-124.85c; July, 124.75-124.90c; Sept, 124.51-124.25c; Dec, 125.01-125.30c; March, 122.50c; May, 122.25 bid-122.75c asked; July, 122.25c; Sept, 122.00 bid-122.75c asked.

COCOA futures finished $15 to $22 lower. May, $2,045-2,015; July, $2,100-2,070; Sept, $2,155-2,112; Dec, $2,179-2,158; March, $2,220-2,205.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS.—Futures finished with pared gains, up 2½ to 7½ cents a bushel, in hectic trade. Oil finished 0.04c a lb lower to up 0.12c. Meal ended up $0.90 to $2.70 a ton. SOYABEANS.—May, 777½-774½c; July, 8[illegible]-797c; Aug, 8[illegible]-808c; Sept, 837-816c; Nov, 853-870c; Jan, 870-848½c; March, 890-868½c; May, 904-892½c. SOYABEAN OIL.—May, 24.75-24.70c; July, 25.50-25.45c; Aug, 25.76c; Sept, 26.05c; Oct, 26.30-26.35c; Dec, 27.00-26.95c; Jan, 27.15; March, 27.75 bid-27.80c asked; May, 28.25 bid-28.30c asked; July, 28.80 bid-28.85c asked. SOYABEAN MEAL.—May, $225.00-225.50; July, $231.80-231.50; Aug, $234.80-[illegible].00; Sept, $238.00; Oct, $240.50-240.00; Dec, $241.50; Jan, $247.00 bid-247.50 asked; March, $251.00 bid-251.50 asked; May, $253.50 bid-254.50 asked.

CHICAGO GRAINS.—Wheat futures closed around the middle of an 8½ cent range, up 1½ to 4½ cents a bushel in mostly local trade. Corn futures ended up 1½c to 4½c a bushel. Prices settled around the high side of a 7½c range. WHEAT.—May, 437½-[illegible]; July, 444-450c; Sept, 458-4[illegible]c; Dec, 480-475c; March, 4[illegible]. CORN.—May, 36[illegible]-360½c; July, 37[illegible]-[illegible]; Sept, 381-375c; Dec, 385½-378c; March, 3[illegible]-398c; May, 39[illegible]. OATS.—May, 219-215c; July, 21[illegible]-208½c; Sept, 213½-208½c; Dec, 2[illegible]-21[illegible].

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot 2.1770 (2.2050); three months, 2.1975 (2.2170); Canadian dollar, 1.1902 (1.1842).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 415.07 (417.15). The futures index was 424.01 (425.37).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 994.24 (1,007.11); transportation, 452.10 (458.71); utilities, 108.9[illegible] (10[illegible]); 65 stocks, 387.19 (3[illegible]). New York Stock Exchange index, 77.29; industrial, 90.[illegible]; transportation, 80.11; utilities, 37.90; financial, 75.15.

Yesterday's Wall Street and Canadian closing prices will appear tomorrow. Later publication, caused by the change to British Summer Time, will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States on April 26.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



Salerooms and Antiques



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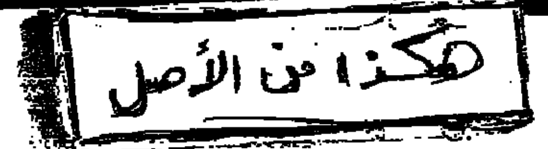
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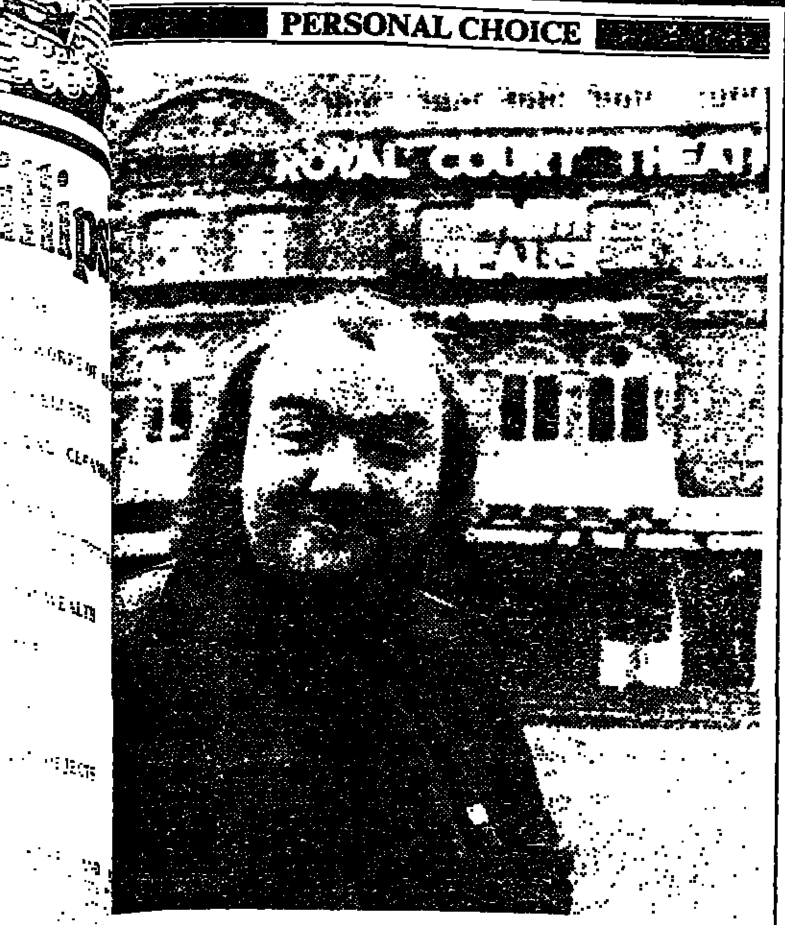
Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

GENERAL VACANCIES



PERSONAL CHOICE



Mel Smith introduces the Omnibus programme celebrating the English Stage Company's 25-year stay at the Royal Court (BBC 1, 10.40 pm)

Three years ago Dr Rob Buckman was the star of Yorkshire TV's comedy series The Pink Medicine Show; the presenter of their top-rated science programme Don't Ask Me; wrote for a number of magazines and was a frequent guest on the Start the Week programme. On top of all this he was a senior registrar at a leading London hospital. Suddenly he began to experience pain in his right wrist. Later it spread to his hand, his eyes became bloodshot and felt gritty, red lumps appeared on his shins and he began suffering from arthritis in all his joints. He realised he was suffering from a rare disease in which the body's defences had turned traitor and attacked his body. Your Own Worst Enemy (ITV 10.30 pm) is a film about how Rob Buckman fought against the illness with the help of two doctors, Professors Deborah Doniach and Ivan Roitt. The programme is lucky in having so articulate a victim because his descriptions of the worsening symptoms, although seen by the camera, convey more of the misery and frustration than flat film. Simple jobs for the healthy such as opening and squeezing a tube of toothpaste become herculean tasks. Rob Buckman's refusal to give in to the disease is an object lesson for all sufferers.

Mel Smith, the versatile comedian and stalwart member of the Not the Nine O'Clock News team, takes us backstage at London's Royal Court Theatre. The Omnibus programme Parrots, Bees, Ducks and Finches (BBC 1, 10.40 pm) celebrates 25 years of the English Stage Company and at first glance the choice of Smith seems very odd. We soon learn that it isn't. His first job after coming down from university was as an assistant director at the Court and his intimate knowledge of the Theatre itself and the people that worked there make him an excellent link-man. There is some wonderful film of Olivier as Archie Rice; excerpts from, among others, Look Back in Anger plus an interview with John Osborne as well as other leading writers for the Royal Court. The title of the programme refers to the grading system devised by the management for playwrights. If you were a Parrot you were

Nearly everybody, I would imagine, has seen the Yorkshire Dales even if only on the television series All Creatures Great and Small. It seems a beautiful part of the country — green, timeless and unchanging. But all is not as it seems. In Radio 4's The Changing Dales (7.50 pm) we are given a portrait of Upper Wensleydale as told by the people who live there. What they tell us is that there have been major changes to the look of the landscape over the years and not all of it for the better.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; ★ BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Allostery; 7.05 Thermal Analysis; 7.30 Evolution: Early Life. Closedown at 7.55.
12.45 pm News.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Included today is a performance by members of the Chinese Martial Arts team. **1.45 The Flumps** (r). Closedown at 2.00.
3.20 Pobol y Cwm. Welsh serial.
3.55 Play School (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Godzilla. A new series of cartoon adventures featuring a prehistoric monster. **4.40 What's the Idea.** Wilf Lunn with some more incredible inventions. **5.05 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 Children of Fire Mountain.** Part six of the 13-episode serial based in New Zealand at the turn of the century.
5.40 News read by Richard Whitmore. **5.55 Regional news magazines. 6.20 Nationwide** visits Rochdale. Also in the programme is Bill Kerr Elliott's report on the activities of the Animal Liberation Front.
6.45 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Three cartoons featuring Tom and Jerry (r). **7.15 Taxi.** One of the comical cab drivers becomes emotionally involved with an out-of-work actress. **7.40 Wildlife on One: What Price the Countryside?** David Attenborough introduces a special edition devoted to the conflict between efficient farming and the preservation of wildlife. In the studio with him are conservationists David Bellamy, Richard Mabey and Lord Melchett together with Sir Ralph Verney of the Nature Conservancy Council and John Hooson of the NFU.
8.10 When the Boat Comes in. Jack accepts an offer from an old flame and agrees to stay at her house in the north.
9.00 News read by Richard Baker.
9.25 Play: The Good Time Girls by Alan Clews. Boredom comes to two wives whose husbands are working on oil rigs. They go out and have affairs with a couple of casual pick-ups with disastrous results for one of them.
10.40 Omnibus: Parrots, Bees, Ducks and Finches. Mel Smith takes a look back at 25 years of the English Stage Company based at the Royal Court. (See Personal Choice.)
11.33 News Headlines
11.35 Platform One. The second of two discussions between Vladimir Pozner, a leading commentator from Moscow, and Robert Kaiser of the Washington Post. With Fred Emery of The Times in the chair they talk about the respective merits of their two countries.
12.05 am Weather.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales: 3.20 pm-3.55 Closedown. 5.10-5.40 Bilidowcar. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.45-7.10 Heddiw. 7.10-7.40 Pobol y Cwm. 12.05 am News and weather. Scotland: 12.40 pm-12.45 The Scottish News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 6.45-7.15 Sorry! 10.40-11.10 Current Account. 11.10-12.00 Omnibus: An Actor's Life for Me. 12.00 News and weather. Northern Ireland: 3.20 pm-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 6.45-7.15 Make Mine Country. 10.40-11.10 Lifetimes. 11.10-12.00 Omnibus. 12.00 News and weather. England: 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 6.45-7.15 East — Focus: Power Struggle. London and South East — Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Midlands — Look! Hear! North — The £55 Million Pay Off. North East — The Four Great Seasons. North West — Towards Tomorrow. South — The Getaways: "Canoe Race". South West — The Attic Archives. West — Breakthrough '81. 12.10 am Close

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: The Einstein Tower; 7.05 Josh's File; 7.30 History of Mathematics. Closedown at 7.55.
11.00 Play School. James Blades tells the tale of Ting Ling's Xylophone for young viewers. Closedown at 11.25.
2.15 International Snooker. David Vine introduces live coverage and highlights of the World Professional Snooker Championship which begins today at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. Further coverage may be seen at 6.55, 10.25 and 11.30.
4.50 Open University: Minimum Cost Flows; 5.15 *Drawings of Seurat*; 5.40 Crystals; 6.05 Song of Sixpence; 6.30 Energy: A Question of Balance.
6.55 International Snooker.
7.25 News including sub-titles for the hard-of-hearing.
7.40 The Hollywood Greats. Barry Norman takes a look at the career of Edward G. Robinson (r).
8.30 Hooked! The second heat of the coarse angling tournament from Edgbaston Reservoir, Birmingham. The celebrity presenter is Donny MacLeod.
9.00 Billie Jo Spears. A recording of the concert given by the American country singer at the New London Theatre.
9.45 One Man and his Dog. Wyn Edwards from Wales and David Brady from Ireland compete for a place in the final of the single dog competition and Thomas Longton of England challenges Scotland's Dick Fortune in the Brace Championship.
10.25 International Snooker.
10.45 Newsnight. The latest news plus an analysis of stories that made today's headlines.
11.30 International Snooker. The last visit of the day to the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, for highlights of the first day's play. David Vine is the presenter. The programme ends at 12.15 am.

Thames

9.30 am Search for the Super. The background to the making of the first hydrogen bomb (r). **9.55 The Nomads.** A look at some of the inhabitants of Eastern Turkey. **10.20 Me and Dad's New Wife.** How 12-year-old Nina learns to live with her divorced father and his new wife. **11.05 Mr Speaker.** A profile of the Speaker of the House of Commons (r). **11.30 At the Embankment.** A concert by the Irish folk group The Bothy Band. (r). **12.00 Cockleshell Bay. 12.10 pm Pipkins.** Educational puppets. **12.30 The Sullivans.** Drama series about an Australian family during World War Two.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News with Robin Houston.
1.30 Crown Court. 2.00 After Noon Plus. Kay Avila reports on how the life of Pauline Carter and her family has been affected by the hereditary and incurable Huntingdon's Chorea. **2.45 The Mallens.** Another episode in the serial based on the novel by Catherine Cookson set in nineteenth-century Northumberland (r). **3.45 Barney Miller.**
4.15 Five Magic Minutes with Terry Herbert. **4.20 Take a Chance. 4.45 Ace Reports.** Non-stop news and live action for young people. **5.15 Emmerdale Farm.** Sam Pearson returns from his hols to hear some nasty rumours about Jack Sugden.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter.
6.25 Help! The Baby Killer Scandal introduced by Viv Taylor Gee. **6.35 Crossroads.**
7.00 Looks Familiar. Denis Norden takes his guests Roy Hudd, John Inman and Leslie Sarony down memory lane when they talk about the stars and the acts of the Thirties and Forties. **7.30 Bognor.** Our reluctant sleuth is still on the trail of canine-loving crooks.
8.00 Charlie's Angels. The toothsome threesome investigate dubious goings-on in a taxi company.
9.00 Play: Cupid's Darts by David Nobbs. A philosophy professor's life is diverted when he meets a darts groupie on a train journey. Robin Bailey and Leslie Ash play the leading parts.
10.00 News.
10.30 Your Own Worst Enemy. Dr Rob Buckman tells the story of how his body suddenly turned against him and we follow his fight against the disease over the months and years (see Personal Choice).
11.30 Rockstage. Two groups recorded at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham. The first half sees the all-girl group, Girlschool, the second, Motorhead.
12.25 am Close with Rosalind Runcie reading from Dante's Inferno.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call.
10.00 News.
10.02 From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: The Open Road, by Jennifer Gubb.
11.00 News.
11.05 Play: The Eyelids of Bodhidharma, by Mavis Smith. †
11.35 Wildlife.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.20 Down Your Way.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 The House of Mirth (3)†
4.00 Science through the Looking Glass (3).
4.15 Home Ground.
4.45 Serial: Greenwich, by Susan Cooper (1).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Brain of Britain†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 The Hitch-Hikers Guide to the Galaxy, by Douglas Adams (1). †
7.50 The Changing Dales. (See Personal Choice) †
8.35 Love's Old Sweet Song (5).
9.05 In Touch.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Cliche (4)†
11.00 Story: The Blessing, by Graham Greene.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.
VHF
10.30 am-10.45 Listen with Mother.
11.00 pm Study on 4: Euromagazine — Edition Francaise (3).
11.30-12.10 am Open University: Alcibiades; *Welfarism — Britain and Sweden.*

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Vivaldi, Schubert, Mozart (Sym 40), Vaughan Williams.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Dvorak, Ponce, Wieniawski, Piston (Sym 2).†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composers: The Court of the Sun King.†
9.45 Ensemble (Melkus): M. Haydn, Schubert, Mozart (incl K334).†
11.30 BBC Singers/Poole: Warlock, G. Bush, Rutter, Moeran, Grainger, etc.†
12.05 pm BBCSO/I. Edelson, pt 1: Elgar, Schumann (Pno Conc — Frankl).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents.
1.25 BBCSO, pt 2: Borodin (Sym 2).†
2.00 Choir, guitar: Castelnuovo-Tedesco.†
2.35 Violin, piano: Steffen, Schumann (op 121). †
3.20 Singcircle/Rose: Emmerson, Cage, Barton, Berberian, Berio. †
4.25 Jazz Today. †
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. †
7.00 The Poetry of John Donne (2).
7.30 Berlin PO/D. Nazareth, pt 1: Beethoven (Pno Conc 1—Brendel).†
8.10 What Books I Please.
8.30 BPO, pt 2: Dvorak (Sym 8). †
9.15 Conversation: Harold Brown.
10.00 Violin, piano (Rosenberg/Crowson): Beethoven (op 30 no 3), Stravinsky, Schubert. †
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Sibelius.†

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Debussy's Jeux; Europe — Conflict and Stability 1789-1870.
11.15 pm-12.55 am Open University: The Growth of Public Expenditure; Maths — Line Integrals; The Incentive to Work; Investigating the Law; History of Mathematics.

Radio 2

5.00 am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Life is Nothing Without Music.† 9.00 Glamorous Nights.† 10.00 The Arthur Askey Variety Show. 11.00 Brian Matthew.† from 12.00. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 Talkabout. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00 John Peel † 12.00 Close.
VHF RADIOS 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT)
6.00 am Newsdesk 7.00 World News 7.09 Twenty-four Hours 7.45 Network UK 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Europa 8.30 Baker's Half-Dozen 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 The English Miniature 10.00 Discovery 10.30 John Peel 11.00 World News 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 Letter from London 11.25 Scotland This Week 11.30 Sports International 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 pm Famous Opera Houses 12.45 Sports Round-up 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty-four Hours 1.30 Network UK 1.45 A Jolly Good Show 2.30 With Great Pleasure 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Baker's Half-Dozen 7.45 Classical Record Review 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-four Hours 8.30 Words Made Flesh 8.45 With Great Pleasure 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Scotland This Week 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Round-up 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Classical Record Review 11.30 Brain of Britain 1981 12.00 World News 12.09 am News about Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 A Jolly Good Show 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Report on Religion 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Four Hands in Harmony 2.30 With Great Pleasure 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Discovery 4.45 Financial News 4.55 Reflections 5.00 World News 5.09 Twenty-four Hours 5.45 The World Today

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m. 95.8 VHF. World Service; med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

ATV

As Thames except: 9.30 am Coral World. 10.10 Tarzan. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 8.00 Robin's Nest. 8.30-9.00 Max Bygraves. 11.30 News. 11.35-12.35 am Paris.

Southern

As Thames except: 9.30 am Kum Kum. 9.55 Lost Islands. 10.20 How the West was Won. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 8.00-9.00 Vegas. 11.30 Tonspeed and Brown Shoe. 12.30 am Weather followed by Cones of Cappadocia.

Granada

As Thames except: 9.30 am Mumbly. 9.40 Circus. 10.05 Wilderness Alive. 10.55 Cartoon Time. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Mork and Mindy. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 8.00-9.00 Hawaii Five-O. 11.30 After All That. This. 11.40 The New Avengers. 12.40 am Close.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25 News. 9.30 Survival. 9.55 Cartoon. 10.00 They Were Sisters* (Phyllis Calvert, James Mason). 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Electric Theatre Show. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 8.00-9.00 Chips. 11.30 Odd Couple. 12.00-12.05 am Second Commandment

Westward

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am Cartoon. 9.40 Film: Heavens Above* (Peter Sellers). 11.35-12.00 Out of Town. 12.27 pm Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 12.30-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.31 News. 10.34 Your Own Worst Enemy. 11.30-11.35 Faith for Life

HTV

As Thames except: Starts 10.00 am Harriet. 10.25-12.00 Film: Light Up the Sky* (Ian Carmichael). 12.30 pm-1.00 George Hamilton IV. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Delouring America. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Definition. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28-10.30 News. 11.30-12.00 Father Dear Father
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 12.00-12.05 pm Pili a Pili. 12.05-12.10 Calimero. 4.15-4.45 Gwesty Gwirion. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30-11.15 Heddiw-a-Ddilyn-Ddoe. 11.15-12.15 am Your Own Worst Enemy.

Channel

As Thames except: Starts 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.28 News. 10.34-11.30 Your Own Worst Enemy

Grampian

As Thames except. Starts 9.55 am First Thing. 10.00 Larry the Lamb. 10.20 Target the Impossible. 10.40 Hands. 11.05 Chips. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 7.00-7.30 Entertainers. 11.30 News. 11.35-12.05 am Paris by Night

Scottish

As Thames except: Starts 10.00 am Hands. 10.25 Film. Seven Sinners.* 11.35-12.00 Survival. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Pet Subject. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Job Spot. 6.30 What's your problem? 7.00-7.30 Take The High Road. 8.00-9.00 Vegas. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35-12.05 am George Hamilton IV

Yorkshire

As Thames except. 9.30 am Larry The Lamb. 9.40 Patterns. 10.05 Tandarra. 10.50 Popeye. 11.00 Beachcombers. 11.30 Arctic Doctor. 11.55-12.00 Captain Nemo. 12.30 pm-1.00 Looks Familiar. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 Touch of Fashion. 6.00-6.35 Calendar. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.30-12.00 Pavilion Folk

Ulster

As Thames except. Starts 10.35 am Big Country. 11.00-12.00 World Leaders. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45 Looks Familiar. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.30-11.40 Bed time

Border

As Thames except. Starts 9.35 am Tarzan. 10.25-12.00 Film. Journey to the Centre of the Earth (Pat Boone, James Mason). 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 11.30-11.33 News

Anglia

As Thames except. Starts 9.35 am Cartoon. 9.55 Line To Skye. 10.10 Star Parade. 11.00 Superstar Profile. 11.30-12.00 Crown Green Bowling. 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 7.00-7.30 Life Begins At Forty. 11.30 It's a Musical World. 12.30 am Pilgrim Way

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

OPERA & BALLET

THEATRES

APOLLO, Shaftesbury Ave, W.1. cc. 01-437 2663. DIANE LANGTON, BEN CROSS in I'M GETTING MY ACT TOGETHER AND TAKING IT ON THE ROAD. A …

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evenings at 8.0. Mat. Sats. 2.30. CONSTANCE CUMMINGS "Bewitching" Times. ANGELA THORNE …

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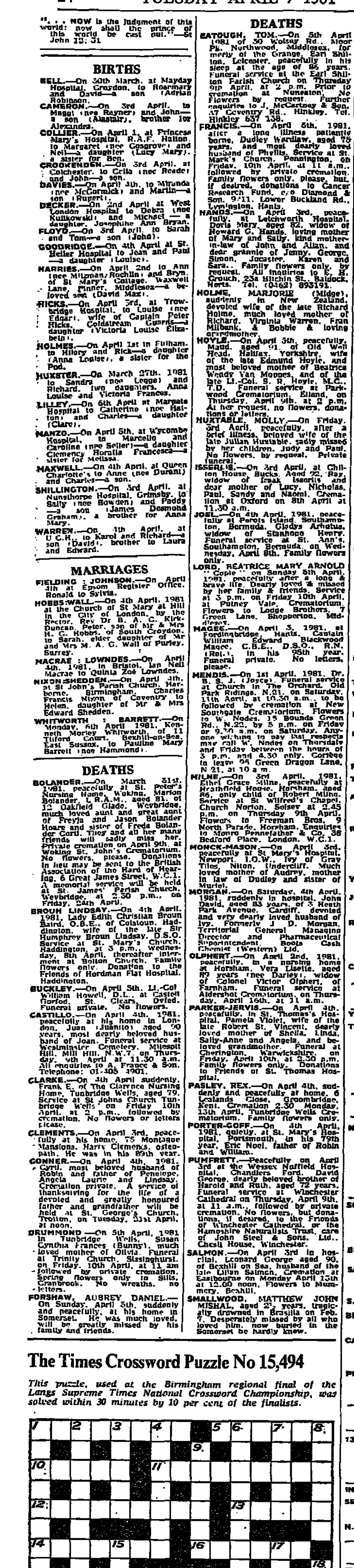
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(continued on page 24)



". . . NOW is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out."—St John 12: 31

BIRTHS

BELL.—On 30th March, at Mayday Hospital, Croydon, to Rosemary and David—a son (Adrian Robinson.

CAMERON.—On 3rd April, to Maggi (nee Rayner) and John—a son (Alastair), brother for Alexandra.

COLLIER.—On April 1, at Princess Mary's Hospital, R.A.F. Halton, to Margaret (nee Cosgrove) and Neil—a daughter (Lucy Mary), a sister for Ben.

CROOKENDEN.—On 3rd April, at Colchester, to Celia (nee Reade) and John—a son.

DAVIES.—On April 4th, to Miranda (nee McCormick) and Martin—a son (Rupert).

DECKER.—On 2nd April at West London Hospital to Debra (nee Kulikowski) and Michael — a daughter, Josephine Ann Bryan.

FLOYD.—On 3rd April, to Sarah and Tom—a son (John).

GOODRIDGE.—On 4th April at St. Helier Hospital to Jean and Paul —a daughter (Louise).

HARRIES.—On April 2nd to Ann (nee Mitzman/Rochlin) and Bryn, of St Mary's Cottage, Waxwell Lane, Pinner, Middlesex—a beloved son (David Max).

HICKS.—On April 3rd, at Trowbridge Hospital, to Louise (nee Edgar), wife of Captain Peter Hicks, Coldstream Guards—a daughter (Victoria Louise Elizabeth).

HOLMES.—On April 1st in Fulham, to Hilary and Rick—a daughter (Anna Louise), a sister for the Pod.

HUXSTER.—On March 27th, 1981 to Sandra (nee Legge) and Richard, two daughters, Anna Louise and Victoria Frances.

LILLEY.—On 6th April at Margate Hospital to Catherine (nee Hatton) and Charles—a daughter (Clare).

MANZO.—On April 5th, at Wycombe Hospital, to Marcello and Caroline (nee Seller)—a daughter Clemency Horatia Francesca—a sister for Melissa.

MAXWELL.—On 4th April, at Queen Charlotte's to Anne (nee Durant) and Charles—a son.

DEATHS

EATOUGH, TOM.—On 5th April 1981 of 30 Wolsey Rd., Moor Pk, Northwood, Middlesex, formerly of the Grange, Earl Shilton, Leicester, peacefully in his sleep at the age of 86 years. Funeral service at the Earl Shilton Parish Church on Thursday 9th April, at 2 p.m. Prior to cremation at Nuneaton. No Flowers by request. Further enquiries to J. McCartney & Son, 47 Coventry Rd., Hinkley. Tel. Hinkley 637 138.

FRANCIS.—On April 5th, 1981, after a long illness patiently borne, Dudley Wardlaw, aged 75 years, and most dearly loved husband of Phyllis. Service at St. Mark's Church, Pennington, on Friday, 10th April, at 11 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please, but, if desired, donations to Cancer Research Fund, c/o Diamond & Son, 9/11, Lower Buckland Rd., Lymington, Hants.

HANDS.—On April 3rd, peacefully, at Letchworth Hospital, Doris Mary, aged 82, widow of Howard G. Hands, loving mother of Mary and Sally, kind mother-in-law of John and Allan, and dear grannie of Jenny, George, Simon, Jocaster, Karen and Sara.. Family flowers only, by request. All inquiries to E. H. Crouch, 23a Hitchin St., Baldock, Herts. Tel. (0462) 893191.

HOLME, MARJORIE (Midge), suddenly in New Zealand, devoted wife of the late Richard Holme, much loved mother of Richard, Virginia Warren, Fran Milbank, & Bobbie & loving grandmother.

HOYLE.—On April 5th, peacefully, Maud, aged 91, of Old Well Head, Halifax, Yorkshire, wife of the late Edmund Hoyle, and most beloved mother of Beatrice Wendy Van Moppes, and of the late Lt.-Col. S. R. Hoyle, M.C., T.D. Funeral service at Park-wood Crematorium, Elland, on Thursday, April 9th, at 2 p.m. At her request, no flowers, donations or letters.

HUXTABLE, MOLLY.—On Friday, 3rd April, peacefully, after a brief illness, beloved wife of the late Julian Huxtable, sadly missed by her children, Judy and Paul. No flowers, by request. Private funeral.

ISSERLIS.—On 3rd April, at Chilton House, Bucks, Aged 92, Ray, widow of Isaak Isserlis and ...

...

DRUMMOND.—On 5th April, 1981 in Tunbridge Wells, Susan Cynthia Frances (Bunny), much loved mother of Olivia. Funeral at Trinity Church, Sissinghurst, on Friday, 10th April, at 11 am followed by private cremation. Spring flowers only to Sills, Cranbrook. No wreaths, no letters.

FORSHAW, AUBREY DANIEL.—On Sunday, April 5th, suddenly and peacefully, at his home in Somerset. He was much loved, will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

...

SALMON.—On April 3rd in hospital, Leonard George aged 90, of Bexhill on Sea, husband of the late Lilian Salmon. Cremation at Eastbourne on Monday April 13th at 12.00 noon. Flowers to Mummery, Bexhill.

SMALLWOOD, MATTHEW JOHN MISHAL, aged 27 years, tragically drowned in Brasilia on Feb. 7. Desperately missed by all who loved him, now buried in the Somerset he hardly knew.

DEATHS

VIDLER, KATHLEEN, beloved Nanny of Atkinson, Thorpe, Lewis and Young families.—Peacefully, at South Wraxall Lodge, Wiltshire, on April 2nd, aged 85. Funeral at Wadhurst, at 2.15 on April 10th.

WOOD.—On April 4th, 1981, Gwen aged 85, widow of Ronald McKinnon Wood, mother of David and Jean and Alastair (died 1949); loved by all her family. Service at the United Reform Church, Brill on Friday 10th April at 3.30 p.m. Private cremation, family flowers only.

WORTHINGTON, WINIFRED BONING HEXTALL (PAT).—On April 3rd, 1981, widow of Charles Edward Worthington, loving mother of Marjorie (Thorp), Philip and Valerie and much loved grandmother, peacefully in hospital. Funeral service and cremation at Leicester Crematorium on Thursday, April 9th, at 12 noon. Family flowers only, please.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LACEY.—A service of thanksgiving for the life of Henry David Lacey will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday May 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, Souldern, Bicester, Oxon.

IN MEMORIAM

COLYER-FERGUSSON.—In affectionate memory of our grandfather, Thomas Colyer-Fergusson, 3rd Baronet of Spitalhaugh, whose residence for 61 years was Ightham Mote, Kent. 11 VII 1865—7 IV 1951 James Colyer-Fergusson Monckton of Brenchley

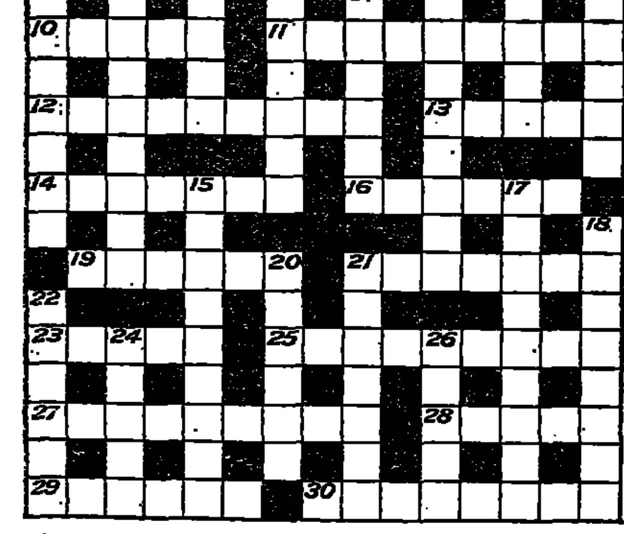
WHITING, NICHOLAS.—with gratitude and pride we remember a most dear father, husband and friend.—Sylvia, Melissa and Matthew.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,494

This puzzle, used at the Birmingham regional final of the Langs Supreme Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 10 per cent of the finalists.



ACROSS
1 Head imprisoned in this court (8).
5 Australian's suit? (6).
10 Men so correspond in the mind (5).
11 Chinatown battle (9).
12 Make effective tool (9).
13 Stop the cholera bacillus! (5).
14 Game point to beat—roughly fifty-fifty (7).
16 Settle fluid and linear measures (6).
19 Meal of sea-pie in Pistol's world (6).
21 Kind of science lab gear dismantled (7).
23 Transport held up in Scottish town (5).
25 Bearing page-number of government office (9).
27 Under a spell and thence transformed (9).
28 Last part of home game (5).
29 Completes circuit of burrows (6).
30 Town SE of 11 by the coast? (8).

DOWN
1 Tale about rat running wild on the island (8).
2 Halo aptly for reform of orthodox medicine (9).
3 Does it provide liquidity for Bank of Scotland? (5).
4 To back strife would sound like unfair treatment (3, 4).
6 Advocating cheap ring manufacture (9).
7 One of the items given for storage in a bank (5).
8 Piecemeal account of Dunne's universe (6).
9 From the middle of which all ways lead south (6).
15 Consequences of a second crop (9).
17 Intrigue disguised role of Chevalier in Spain (9).
18 Luddites putting the boot in? (8).
20 Falsified true record-holder's name (6).
21 Cut down a dentist's work (7).
22 Agree to take the throne (6).
24 Walker's summary in reverse (5).
26 In honour of scientist, turn up at Greek play (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,493

PERSONAL COLUMNS
ALSO ON PAGE 23

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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CORFU Villas Apts. 1-2 wks.	May	135	Villa Seekers
BEACHCOMBER 1-2 wks.	May	109	Medina
CORFU Villas Apts. Tavernas	May 7 21, 28	115	Minerva Holidays
CORFU Villas / Tavernas 7 & 14 days	May	114	Ilios Island Holidays
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